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Lacking issues



For release

Date January 16, 1989
89-01

OTTAWA -- Further to Minister Barbara McDougall's statements of December 28, 1988 Employment and Immigration Canada today announced that effective immediately, potential refugee claimants in Canada prior to January 1, 1989 are able to accept employment.

People in the backlog will receive a form and letter confirming to employers their eligibility to accept employment. Claimants will start receiving the forms within two weeks, either by registered mail or in person when called to appear at a Canada Immigration Centre (CIC). People should wait to be contacted before appearing at CICs. (See Backgrounder)

Those who already hold employment authorizations-some 30,000 claimants-will also get the forms enabling them to continue working beyond the expiry of their 12-month employment authorizations.

Claimants who have not yet passed medical examinations will receive form letters temporarily restricting their employment to jobs where protection of public health is not a factor.



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Full instructions to claimants will be issued with the forms, and those requiring Social Insurance Number (SIN) cards will receive SIN application forms as well.

For information:

Roger White
Public Affairs
(819) 994-4624



Backgrounder on
Process allowing backlog claimants to work

1. Composition of Backlog

- ° As of January 1, 1989, the refugee claimant backlog was composed of approximately 85,000 people.
- ° Of this number, about 30,000 have already received their employment authorizations through the old refugee determination process.
- ° Among the remaining 55,000, there are those who have been subject to reports for violation of the Immigration Act upon entry to Canada or as a result of arrest in Canada. Others have reported voluntarily out of status to Immigration Centres. None of these people had reached the stage under the old system where they would have been eligible for employment authorizations.
- ° Claimants in the second group, without means to be self-supporting, have received provincial welfare assistance. Allowing this group to accept employment will lessen the burden on provincial social assistance agencies.

2. Amendment to Regulations

- ° The Immigration Regulations are amended effective January 12, 1989 to allow those without employment authorizations to work, provided they:

- arrived in Canada after May 21, 1986. Persons in the refugee claimant stream prior to that date had already received permission to work and/or were processed under the Administrative Review Program of 1986/87.
- were in Canada prior to January 1, 1989 and have already been the subject of a report or arrest for violations of the Immigration Act (Sections 20, 27 or 104), or, having presented themselves voluntarily to Immigration offices, would be subjects of such reports.
- are not already subject to a removal order or departure notice.

3. Issuance of forms

- ° Beginning January 16, 1989, a form identifying the holder as a refugee claimant and verifying to potential employers and provincial welfare agencies that lawful employment may be accepted will be issued to all claimants.

- ° The forms will be sent by Registered Mail from National Headquarters in Ottawa to claimants in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta.
- ° In all other provinces, claimants will be contacted and told to report to Immigration Centres to be issued the forms.
- ° Social Insurance Card application forms and information about applying will be included in the form distribution.
- ° Where claimants have changed addresses and have not so notified an Immigration office, they should report their new addresses to the Canada Immigration Centre handling their cases, unless they are residing in Ontario, Quebec, or British Columbia.

In Ontario, Quebec, or British Columbia changes of address should be sent by mail as soon as possible to the appropriate addresses listed. Claimants are not to report in person if they live in these provinces.

Claimants in the province of Quebec	Canada Immigration Centre 1616 Boul. René Lévesque Ouest 2nd Floor Montreal, Quebec H3H 1P8
Claimants in the province of Ontario	Canadian Immigration Centre P.O. Box 4118 40 Bay Street, Delivery Depot A Toronto, Ontario M5W 2V9
Claimants in the province of British Columbia	Canada Immigration Centre Box 2203, Main Post Office Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 3N2

- ° A second mailing in February will direct returned forms to the new addresses in these provinces.
- ° Those who do not have valid certificates of medical assessment clearing them for employment in a job where protection of public health is essential will be issued a restricted employment form. Those who subsequently obtain valid medical certificates, will automatically be issued a letter lifting the restriction.
- ° Claimants who already possess employment authorizations will receive the forms as well. The forms will enable these claimants to continue to work after their 12-month employment authorizations expire. These claimants will therefore not need to have their employment authorizations renewed in person at a CIC as would normally be the case.

5. Sunset clause

- ° A Sunset clause date of September 30, 1991 has been included in the Regulation as it is anticipated that by that date, the majority of claimants will have been processed under the backlog clearance.

CAI
MI
-R21

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

February 14, 1989
89-03



**Second finding of non-compliance with the mandatory
federal employment equity program**

Minister of State for Employment and Immigration Canada
Monique Vezina today announced the appointment of
Kathleen Mahoney to act as an independent assessor in
the appeal of Northern Alberta Dairy Pool Ltd. against a
finding of non-compliance under the government's Federal
Contractors Program, a key mandatory program for
Employment Equity.

An associate professor of Law at the
University of Calgary, Ms. Mahoney will be responsible
for reviewing the findings of a compliance review under
the Federal Contractors Program which Northern Alberta
Dairy Pool Ltd. has appealed. If Ms. Mahoney upholds
the finding of non-compliance with the requirements of
the Federal Contractors Program the company will face
the possibility of sanctions. Sanctions may involve the
refusal of the government to allow the employer to bid
on future contracts until they have successfully
implemented an approved Employment Equity plan.

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"Contractors may implement their own procedures for the Employment Equity program," Mrs. Vezina said. "The Federal Contractors Program is sufficiently flexible to allow that."

"We are concerned however when a company is found to be in non-compliance. We aim for both fairness to the company and ensuring that all employees and applicants have a fair chance in the workplace."

Northern Alberta Dairy Pool Ltd.'s appeal follows one on November 7th, 1988 by Freed and Freed International Ltd. of Winnipeg. These are the only two rulings of non-compliance out of 103 reviews that have commenced since the program began in October 1986. Twenty-one of these reviews have now been concluded.

For further information see attached backgrounder.

For information: Marnie Clarke
(819) 953-7483

Neil Gavigan
(819) 953-7531

Helga Lavigne
(819) 953-7528



EMPLOYMENT EQUITY

FEDERAL CONTRACTORS PROGRAM

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAM

To ensure that federal contractors who do business with the Government of Canada achieve and maintain a fair and representative workforce.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

Suppliers of goods and services to the federal government who employ 100 persons or more and who want to bid on contracts of \$200,000 or more will be required to commit themselves to implementing employment equity as a condition of their bid. Failure to subsequently comply with prescribed employment equity measures can result in the loss of the opportunity to compete for future government business.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

The program requires contractors to implement employment equity measures. Such measures necessitate the identification and removal of artificial barriers to the selection, hiring, promotion and training of women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities, and visible minorities. As well, contractors will take steps to improve the employment status of these designated groups by increasing their participation in all levels of employment.

OPERATION OF THE PROGRAM

There are five essential steps in the implementation and operation of the

Federal Contractors Program. They are: Certification, Implementation, Compliance Review, Appeal and Sanctions. (The timing of each step is dependent upon the individual circumstances of each contractor and cannot be pre-determined.)

1. Certification

Suppliers who employ 100 persons or more and who wish to bid on contracts worth \$200,000 or more with the federal government will first certify in writing their commitment to implement employment equity according to specific criteria.

2. Implementation

Employment equity will be implemented in keeping with the terms and conditions of Criteria provided by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC).

Essential components of this process are:

- a) removal of discriminatory barriers to the employment and promotion of designated groups. This includes elimination or modification of all practices and systems relating to human resource policies which cannot be shown to be bona fide occupational requirements;
- b) improvement in the participation of designated group members throughout the contractor's organization through hiring, training and promotion;
- c) the introduction of special measures and the establishment of internal goals and timetables towards the achievement of employment equity by increasing the recruitment, hiring, training and promotion of designated group members and by making reasonable accommodations to enable members of such groups to compete with others on an equal basis; and
- d) the retention of records regarding the employment equity implementation process for assessment by officials from the CEIC during on-site compliance reviews.

3. Compliance Review

In-depth compliance reviews will be conducted by the CEIC to:

- a) review the records and documents kept by contractors;
- b) assess compliance with the program criteria and the results obtained;

- c) determine the extent of efforts made by contractors on behalf of designated groups; and
- d) measure the performance levels attained by contractors.

If the compliance review results are positive, the process is complete and the contractor will be so informed.

If the compliance review results are negative, the contractor will be so informed and will be expected to initiate remedial action for review within a prescribed time limit not to exceed 12 months.

4. Appeal

The contractor has the right to appeal an unfavourable compliance review to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. In that instance, an independent review will be undertaken to study the findings of the original compliance review and advise the Minister of Employment and Immigration of the results.

5. Sanctions

In the event that the results of the independent review indicate a failure to comply, sanctions will be applied including eventual exclusion from bidding on federal government contracts.

WH-3-593

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-R21

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

March 21, 1989
89-04

**First sanctions imposed under
Federal Contractors Program**



The Honorable Monique Vézina, Minister of State for Employment and Immigration, and the Honorable Paul Dick, Minister of Supply and Services, today announced the imposition of sanctions against Freed & Freed International Ltd., of Winnipeg, for failure to implement an employment equity program as required by the Federal Contractors Program.

Freed & Freed International Ltd. was required, as a condition of having been awarded a federal government contract, to develop and effective program to improve the status of women, aboriginal people, persons with disabilities and visible minorities according to criteria issued by Employment and Immigration Canada. As a result of Compliance Reviews conducted at the company's premises in 1987/88 the company was found to be in non-compliance.

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Freed and Freed appealed the findings of the Compliance Review Officer and in November 1988 the government appointed an independent assessor, Mr. David Bowman, Q.C., to hear the appeal. Mr Bowman's report, released on March 1, 1989 upheld the ruling of non-compliance, thus making the company subject to sanctions.

Madame Vézina said that the company has had ample opportunity to work with Employment and Immigration on the development of an employment equity plan. "Our staff has been available, and continues to be available, for consultation and assistance." said the Minister, "From the outset the company has been aware of the consequences of failure to meet their commitments to implement the Program."

Out of 108 reviews which have been carried out since the program began in October 1986 only two companies have been found to be in non-compliance. The second case, that of Northern Alberta Dairy Pool, of Edmonton, is still under appeal.

Mr. Dick said that sanctions against Freed & Freed are to take effect immediately. "We have decided that it is appropriate under the circumstances to withhold from the company the opportunity to do business with the federal government until such time as they have fulfilled their commitment," he said.

For information:

Marnie Clarke
Employment and Immigration Canada
(819) 953-7483

Attach: FCP fact sheet.



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WH-3-593



For release

Date

March 31, 1989
89-05

Backlog Clearance Process

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Canada today announced further details of a system to process refugee claims made before January 1, 1989.

Processing of some 30,000 of the oldest cases began this month with reviews of transcripts of examinations under oath undergone by claimants in the former system.

As announced December 28, 1988 by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, approximately 85,000 backlog refugee cases will be dealt with under a system similar to the refugee determination process implemented on January 1, 1989 for new arrivals making claims.

The process of assessing the 85,000 cases in the backlog for a credible basis for refugee status is expected to take approximately two years to complete. Those people who have no credible basis for a refugee claim face removal from Canada where no humanitarian or compassionate grounds can be found to allow them to remain.

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Claimants in the backlog can voluntarily leave the country. By doing so, they may apply at any time for admission to Canada under Immigration selection criteria. Letters of introduction will be given to claimants who depart voluntarily to hand in to visa offices abroad. The experience acquired in Canada by former claimants will be considered favourably as part of the application process.

Permission to work was given to backlog claimants effective January 12, 1989 with a change to employment authorization regulations.

The attached backgrounder and questions and answers package details the elements of today's announcement.

For further information:

Roger White or
Linda Larocque
Public Affairs
(819) 953-5118

Backgrounder

Processing the Refugee Backlog

Administering the Backlog Claims

Approximately 85,000 backlog refugee cases have been divided into four main groups based on how far the claim proceeded through the former determination process in place prior to January 1, 1989.

- * Group I is made up of approximately 30,000 of the oldest cases (in Canada since May 1986) in the backlog. Examinations under oath were completed for these claimants under the former system. Major nationalities in this group include Portuguese, Ghanaians, Sri Lankans, Turks and Brazilians.
- * Group II, about 6,000 cases, arrived between May 1986 and February 1987 and were issued Minister's permits under the former B-1 list procedures. El Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Sri Lankans and Iranians are the main nationalities in Group II.
- * Group III includes about 12,000 cases who arrived mainly between December 1987 and March 1988 and who did not reach the examination under oath stage under the former system following immigration inquiries. Among the people in this group are Iranians, Sri Lankans, Ghanaians and Chileans.

- * Group IV, about 37,000 cases, arrived mainly between March 1988 and December 1988, and had been reported under the Immigration Act for violations or had reported voluntarily to Canada Immigration Centres (CICs). Panamanians and Trinidadians are included in this group.

The Backlog Processing System

Panel Hearings

Claimants will appear before special two-person panels composed of an adjudicator and member of the Refugee Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). These panels, at least 50 to deal exclusively with backlog claimants, will be operating in the spring of 1989 in regions other than Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia and the summer of 1989 in these provinces.

As with the first level panels of the refugee determination process in place since January 1, 1989 for new arrivals, the IRB member and the adjudicator must both agree to reject a claim. If either panel member finds a credible basis for a refugee claim, the claimant will be processed for permanent residence, subject to statutory requirements involving health, criminality and self-sufficiency.

Humanitarian and Compassionate Reviews

Before attending the panel hearings, refugee claimants will have their cases initially assessed by immigration officers at Canada Immigration Centres (CICs) starting in the spring or summer depending on the region of residence. The officers will conduct interviews to assess whether there exist any humanitarian and compassionate grounds for accepting the claimant for permanent residence. If the claimant has Family Class relationships established in Canada, for example, permanent resident processing can begin immediately, again subject to the statutory requirements, and no panel hearing will be required unless the claimant wishes one.

These interviews will be conducted in new CICs in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver being set up to deal exclusively with backlog claimant cases. Regular CICs will handle the interviews in other regions.

Those claimants who do not meet initial humanitarian and compassionate ground criteria, and are found not to have a credible basis for a refugee claim by the special backlog panels, proceed to immigration Inquiries. Where adjudicators of Inquiries subsequently make removal orders under due process, senior officials at Employment and Immigration Canada National Headquarters will conduct final humanitarian and compassionate reviews of these cases prior to enforcement of the removal orders.

The humanitarian and compassionate criteria applied prior to removal are broader than those applied at the initial interview, and ensure that persons who would face unduly harsh or inhumane treatment in their country of origin, because of their personal circumstances, are not removed.

This review is the same as that applied to persons facing removal under the new system in place since January 1, 1989 because no credible basis for a refugee claim could be found by either panel member.

Voluntary Departure

Claimants can voluntarily leave the country and apply for immigration to Canada from abroad in the normal manner. If this is done prior to the issuance of a removal order, the Minister's consent is not required to return. Furthermore, they will be given letters of introduction to Canadian Embassies or Consulates in their home countries, and visa officers will give favourable consideration to the applicant's Canadian experience as part of the assessment process.

People who are ordered deported from Canada will require Ministerial consent before being allowed back into the country, either as visitors or immigrants, even if they otherwise meet admission requirements.

Transcript Review for Credibility

Some Group I cases will not be required to go through the backlog processing system described above. Starting in March 1989, Group I cases are being reviewed for a credible basis for a refugee claim at Employment and Immigration Canada National Headquarters by officials. Those cases recommended on review to have a credible basis for a refugee claim will be turned over to the special adjudicator and IRB panels for a final credible basis determination. Group I cases decided favourably by the panels in this way will proceed to permanent residence processing subject to the statutory requirements.

Summary

The system established to process the backlog of refugee claimants in Canada is consistent with the principles found in the new refugee determination legislation. It provides for fair, effective and expeditious processing of the most deserving cases, but does not reward those people who put forward claims that are manifestly false.

The process is consistent with Canada's international obligations and continues to offer protection to genuine refugees.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Backlog Clearance Process

Q.1 What is the backlog clearance process?

A.1 The backlog clearance process is a system similar to the new refugee determination system for new arrivals, established to deal with approximately 85,000 cases. Persons assessed under the process will be those who made refugee claims or indicated such an intention under the previous determination system and whose cases were not concluded prior to January 1, 1989. All eligible claimants in the backlog will be assessed for credible basis of their claims by two-person panels composed of an adjudicator and a member of the new Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). The process also allows for humanitarian and compassionate grounds to be applied at various stages.

Q.2 What is the composition of the backlog?

A.2 The backlog population is divided into four groups:

Group I - consists of approximately 30,000 cases where transcripts of examinations under oath already exist. These are people who have been in the system for the longest time.

Group II - is composed of some 6,000 people who arrived from countries included on the former B-1 list between May 1986 and February 1987. At that time, Minister's permits were issued to all these claimants.

Group III - claimants in this group are those whose
Inquiries were adjourned under the Immigration Act
and have not been examined under oath
(approximately 12,000 cases). Most of these
claimants arrived in Canada between December 1987
and March 1988.

Group IV - Finally, it is estimated that there are about
37,000 cases of people who arrived mainly between
March 1988 and December 1988 who were reported
under the Immigration Act or who themselves
reported voluntarily to Canada Immigration Centres
(CICs). None of these cases has gone to
immigration Inquiry.

Q.3 What about reports of higher numbers of claimants in the backlog?

Q.3 The planning figure being used is 85,000 cases. There are additional persons in Canada who are dependants of refugee claimant cases. Some of these dependants have also made claims. For the purpose of clearing the backlog, most dependants of positively processed claimants will become permanent residents along with the family unit head, provided they too meet statutory requirements. However, no family member dependant will be denied individual processing as a refugee claimant if this is requested. In-status claimants and people who rushed into CICs to make last minute claims also swell the numbers.

However, reducing the numbers are several factors. Apparent additional numbers of persons in the backlog are generated

by out-of-date information in the computer system involving claimants who have moved from region to region and have been double-counted, who have been processed already, who will be excluded from the process by regulation, or who have left Canada. As the new backlog CICs become fully operational, the computer system updated, and cases are processed over the two-year period, more exact figures will be available. Until then, approximately 85,000 cases is the planning figure used.

Q.4 Which cases will be processed first?

A.4 Generally, claimants in Group I have been in the country for the longest time and therefore will be processed first. We already have transcripts of their examinations under oath. EIC officials at National Headquarters have begun reviewing these transcripts to assess the credible basis of these claims. Those cases recommended as credible at this stage will be referred, following final concurrence of the special backlog panels, to CICs, and will be allowed to apply for permanent residence.

Q.5 How will you process the remaining cases from Group I?

A.5 All claimants from Group I not found to have a credible basis and all other claimants from Groups II, III and IV will be interviewed at CICs. Officials there will look for Family Class related humanitarian or compassionate reasons that would allow the claimants in these groups to remain without the necessity of undergoing further processing as refugee claimants. If no Family Class relationships exist, the claimants will be given dates to appear before the

special backlog panels. CIC officers will also ensure, during this interview, that claimants' papers are in order for their panel hearings.

Q.6 Do claimants have to go before panels at this point?

A.6 Claimants who do not meet the initial humanitarian and compassionate criteria will be counselled at the CICs on the option of leaving the country voluntarily and hence avoiding the possibility of a removal order later on. If they still wish to proceed with their claims, they will be referred to panel hearings for determination and will be expected to attend. Claimants whose claims are not found to have a credible basis by the panels will have to then attend immigration Inquiries where adjudicators may make removal orders under due process.

Q.7 What will happen to claimants who voluntarily leave the country?

A.7 Claimants who leave before a removal order is made will be able to apply for immigration from abroad in the normal manner. They will not need the Minister's consent to return. Furthermore, they will be given a letter of introduction to the Canadian Embassy or Consulate in their country and the visa officer will give favourable consideration to the former claimant's Canadian experience as part of the application process.

Q.8 What are panel hearings?

A.8 The backlog panel hearings are equivalent to first level hearings under the new refugee determination system in place since January 1989 for new arrivals. At least 50 backlog panels each will be composed of an independent adjudicator and a member of the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). They will hear all evidence from claimants and determine whether there is a credible basis for the claim. Both the IRB member and the adjudicator must agree to reject. Those found to have a credible basis for a refugee claim will be allowed to apply for permanent residence from within Canada.

Q.9 What is the procedure for applying for permanent residence?

A.9 This will be handled by the CICs. Passport and visa requirements will be waived. As long as other statutory requirements involving health, criminality and ability to be self-supporting are met, the claimant will be granted permanent resident status. A person who does not meet statutory requirements will be referred to a full oral hearing before the Immigration and Refugee Board which will render a decision on Immigration status.

Q.10 What will happen to claimants for whom removal orders are issued? Will they be removed immediately?

A.10 As promised by the Minister, the cases of persons ultimately ordered removed by an adjudicator will be examined carefully by EIC senior officials to determine if any further humanitarian and compassionate grounds exist. A removal

will only take place after a negative decision has been reached by these officials.

Q.11 Can the removal be appealed?

A.11 As provided by the Immigration Act, a removal order by an adjudicator may be reviewed with leave by the Federal Court of Appeal.

Q.12 If a claimant is rejected and ordered out of Canada, will he/she be eligible to return?

A.12 If the person is ordered deported, he/she will require Ministerial consent to return at any time either as a visitor or an immigrant.

If the person is ordered excluded, he/she may re-apply after one year from issuance of the order.

Q.13 When will the backlog clearance process start?

A.13 Officials at EIC National Headquarters have started examining transcripts of people included in Group I.

Regions other than Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia will begin the initial CIC interviews and panel hearings in the spring of 1989. In the summer of this year, all regions will be conducting interviews and panels will be hearing cases. The backlog clearance process is expected to take two years at a cost of \$100 million.

Q.14 Will claimants be advised as to when they can expect their claims to be processed?

A.14 All claimants will be contacted by mail to schedule the CIC interviews in the order stated earlier. At that time, immigration counsellors will advise claimants of the processing time frame for their cases.

Q.15 What else is being done to inform claimants about this process?

A.15 A brochure will shortly be made available to explain the procedure. Efforts will be made to brief non-governmental officials and agencies who deal with claimants on a regular basis, and further outreach projects are planned to inform the backlog claimant population about the clearance project.

Q.16 What are the types of cases that could be dealt with under C-55 as opposed to the Backlog Clearance Program?

A.16 The transitional provisions of Bill C-55 contain criteria which exclude certain claimants from having a credible basis determination by an adjudicator and a member of the IRB. These claimants, therefore, would be ineligible for the Backlog Clearance Program.

In addition, the draft Refugee Claimants Backlog Designated Class Regulations define certain persons who are ineligible for processing under the Backlog Clearance Program. It is

proposed that the following will be excluded from the Regulations:

- a) persons who were determined under the former system to be Convention refugees;
- b) persons whose applications were already refused under the Regulations or under the Administrative Review Program of 1986-87;
- c) persons under an unexecuted removal order, unless an appeal from that order has been allowed;
- d) those who have eluded Inquiry; and
- e) criminals and security risks.

Q.17 Please explain why some of the Backlog Clearance Program cases are dealt with under the transitional provisions of the Act?

A.17 The new refugee determination process inherited cases from the backlog in the old system. The transitional provisions of the legislation were designed to link the flow of partially completed cases in the previous system to the new determination process. These provisions identify a person whose inquiry was adjourned for an examination under oath prior to January 1, 1989, as eligible for consideration of his refugee claim. Those whose inquiries were not adjourned for an examination under oath are processed under the provisions of the amended Act.

A decision was reached by Cabinet to clear the backlog on the basis of a process for determining which claims possess a credible basis and which do not. This process is overseen by an adjudicator and an IRB member and follows the provisions of the legislation. The draft Backlog Regulations set out the procedure by which claimants in the backlog who are determined to have a credible basis may apply for permanent residence immediately instead of pursuing their claims before the IRB.

Le Cabinet a décidé d'éliminer l'arrière des revendications au moyen d'un processus qui permettra de déterminer quelles sont les revendications qui ont un minimum de fondement et quelles sont celles qui n'en ont pas. Un membre de la CISR et un arbitre surveilleront le déroulement de ce processus qui est conforme aux dispositions de la Loi. On a établi dans le projet de règlement les modalités en vertu desquelles les personnes dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière, et pour laquelle on a reconnu un minimum de fondement, peuvent solliciter immédiatement la résidence permanente, au lieu de présenter leur demande à la CISR.

R.17 Certains cas faisant partie de l'arrière des revendications du statut de réfugié, provenant de l'ancien processus de reconnaissance, doivent être traités selon le nouveau processus. Les dispositions transitoires ont été conçues pour faire en sorte que les cas déjà en cours dans l'ancien système soient étudiés dans le cadre du nouveau processus. Le cas d'une personne dont l'enquête a été ajoutée aux fins de l'interrogatoire sous serment avant le 1^{er} janvier 1989 **peut** être traité selon ces dispositions transitoires. Le cas des personnes dont l'enquête n'a pas été ajoutée aux fins de l'interrogatoire sous serment est traité selon les dispositions de la nouvelle Loi.

Q.17 Veuillez dire pourquoi certaines revendications faisant partie de l'arrière sont traitées dans le cadre des dispositions transitoires de la Loi.

En outre, le projet de règlement sur la catégorie désignée de demandeurs de statut de réfugié (arriéré) définit quelles sont les personnes dont la revendication ne peut être traitée dans le cadre du programme précité. Il est proposé que le règlement en question ne s'applique pas aux personnes suivantes :

a) celles à qui le statut de réfugié au sens de la Convention a été reconnu aux termes de l'ancien système;

b) celles dont la demande a déjà été rejetée en vertu du Règlement ou aux termes de l'examen administratif de 1986-1987;

c) celles qui sont sous le coup d'une ordonnance de renvoi, à moins qu'un appel de cette ordonnance n'ait été accueilli;

d) celles qui se sont soustraites à l'enquête;

e) les criminels et celles qui constituent une menace à la sécurité.

Q.14 Les demandeurs seront-ils informés de la date probable de l'étude de leur cas?

R.14 Tous les demandeurs seront informés par courrier de la date où se tiendra, suivant l'ordre établi précédemment, leur entrevue au CIC. A l'entrevue, le conseiller en immigration informera le demandeur du délai de traitement de son cas.

Q.15 Quelles sont les autres mesures que vous prendrez afin de faire connaître ce nouveau processus aux revendicateurs?

R.15 Une brochure conçue pour expliquer les procédures sera bientôt disponible. Nous nous efforcerons d'informer les intervenants et les organismes non gouvernementaux qui traitent régulièrement avec des revendicateurs. Enfin, nous comptons adopter d'autres projets de sensibilisation afin qu'ils soient correctement renseignés sur le projet d'élimination de l'arrière.

Q.16 Quels sont les genres de cas qui pourraient être réglés selon le C-55 par opposition au programme d'élimination de l'arrière?

R.16 Les dispositions transitoires du C-55 renferment des critères qui empêchent un arbitre et un membre de la CISR de déterminer, dans le cas de certains demandeurs, si leur revendication a un minimum de fondement. Par conséquent, ces revendications ne peuvent être réglées dans le cadre du programme d'élimination de l'arrière.

Q.12 Si la revendication est rejetée et que la personne en cause est expulsée du Canada, peut-elle y revenir?

R.12 Lorsqu'une personne est expulsée, il lui faudra d'abord obtenir l'autorisation du Ministre pour revenir au Canada, soit comme visiteur, soit comme immigrant.

Si la personne est frappée d'exclusion, elle pourra présenter une nouvelle demande un an après l'émission de l'avis original.

Q.13 Quand le processus d'élimination de l'arrêté sera-t-il mis en oeuvre?

R.13 Les fonctionnaires à l'Administration centrale ont commencé l'examen des dossiers des personnes rentrant dans le Groupe I.

Les premières entrevues dans les CIC et les audiences devant les jurys commenceront au printemps de 1989 dans les régions autres que le Québec, l'Ontario et la Colombie-Britannique. A l'été, dans toutes les régions, on fera subir des entrevues aux intéressés, et des jurys procéderont à l'audition des cas. On prévoit qu'il faudra deux ans pour éliminer l'arrêté et que l'opération coûtera 100 millions de dollars.

Q.9 Quelles sont les formalités relatives à la présentation d'une demande de résidence permanente?

R.9 Le CIC s'occupera de ces formalités. Les intéressés seront dispensés du passeport et du visa. Le demandeur obtiendra la résidence permanente pourvu qu'il satisfasse à d'autres exigences réglementaires concernant la santé, la criminalité et la capacité de subvenir à ses besoins. Le cas des personnes qui ne satisfont pas à ces exigences sera délégué à la Commission de l'immigration et du statut de réfugié qui rendra une décision concernant leur admissibilité.

Q.10 Qu'arrivera-t-il aux demandeurs frappés de renvoi? Seront-ils renvoyés immédiatement?

R.10 Comme l'a promis le Ministre, le cas des personnes dont le renvoi a été ordonné par l'arbitre sera soigneusement examiné par des hauts fonctionnaires d'EIC qui détermineront s'il existe d'autres considérations d'ordre humanitaire et d'autres motifs de commission. Aucun renvoi ne sera effectué avant que ces fonctionnaires n'aient rendu une décision défavorable.

Q.11 Peut-on en appeler du renvoi?

R.11 La Loi sur l'immigration prévoit qu'une personne frappée de renvoi par l'arbitre peut obtenir, sur autorisation, que son cas soit revu devant la Cour d'appel fédérale.

Q.7 Qu'advient-il des demandeurs qui quittent le pays de leur plein gré?

R.7 Les demandeurs qui quittent le Canada avant d'être frappés de renvoi pourront présenter, à l'étranger, une demande d'immigration suivant les voies habituelles sans avoir à demander l'autorisation du Ministère pour y revenir. En outre, ils recevront une lettre d'introduction à présenter à l'ambassade ou à l'un des consulats du Canada dans leur pays d'origine, et les agents des visas prendront en considération, dans le traitement de leur demande, le fait que ces personnes connaissent le Canada.

Q.8 En quoi consistent les audiences devant un jury?

R.8 Les audiences devant un jury correspondent aux audiences tenues à la première étape du nouveau processus mis en place depuis janvier 1989 pour traiter les revendications des nouveaux arrivants. Des juries, au moins une cinquantaine, seront composés d'un arbitre indépendant et d'un membre de la Commission de l'immigration et du statut de réfugié (CISR). Les juries examineront tous les éléments de preuve présentés par les demandeurs et détermineront si la revendication comporte un minimum de fondement. Le membre de la CISR et l'arbitre doivent tous les deux être d'accord pour qu'une demande soit rejetée. Les personnes dont la revendication comporte un minimum de fondement seront autorisées à présenter au Canada une demande de résidence permanente.

Q.5 Comment traiterez-vous les autres revendications du Groupe I?

R.5 Les agents des CIC feront subir une entrevue à tous les demandeurs du Groupe I dont la revendication n'a pas été considérée comme ayant un minimum de fondement et à tous les autres demandeurs des Groupes II, III et IV. Ils

détermineront alors s'il y a des considérations humanitaires relatives à la famille permettant à ces demandeurs de demeurer au Canada sans plus de formalités. S'il n'existe pas de considérations relatives à la famille, ils fixeront aux demandeurs une date à laquelle ceux-ci devront se présenter devant un jury spécialement formé pour s'occuper de l'arrière. Les agents du CIC devront également s'assurer pendant l'entrevue que les documents des demandeurs sont en règle pour l'audition qui sera tenue devant le jury.

Q.6 Est-ce que les demandeurs se présenteront devant un jury à ce stade-ci?

R.6 Les agents du CIC informeront les demandeurs dont le cas ne comporte pas de considérations humanitaires relatives à la famille qu'ils peuvent quitter le pays de leur plein gré de façon à éviter d'être ensuite tirés de renvoi. Si les demandeurs souhaitent malgré tout qu'on poursuive l'examen de leur revendication, ils seront tenus de se faire entendre à une audience devant un jury qui rendra une décision à leur sujet. Si celui-ci décide que la revendication ne comporte pas un minimum de fondement, le demandeur devra alors se présenter à une enquête et l'arbitre pourrait prononcer le renvoi suivant les voies de droit régulières.

Toutefois, plusieurs facteurs influent négativement sur ces chiffres. Ainsi, on pourrait être porté à croire que le nombre de réfugiés est plus élevé en raison du fait que nos ordinateurs contiennent des renseignements périmés au sujet de revendeurs qui, en démarchant d'une région à une autre, ont été comptés deux fois; d'autres demandeurs ont déjà été entendus, tandis que certains seront exclus du processus par voie de règlement et que d'autres encore ont quitté le pays depuis. Au fur et à mesure que les CIC s'occupent de l'arrière commencent à fonctionner à plein, que nos programmes informatiques seront mis à jour et que les cas seront entendus sur une période de deux ans, nous disposerons de statistiques plus précises. D'ici là, le nombre approximatif de 85 000 est celui qui servira de base à nos travaux de planification.

0.4 Quels cas seront d'abord traités?

R.4 Les cas des demandeurs du Groupe I, c'est-à-dire ceux qui, en général, se trouvent depuis plus longtemps au pays, seront traités en premier. Nous avons déjà une transcription de leur interrogatoire sous serment. Les fonctionnaires d'EIC à l'Administration centrale ont commencé à examiner ces transcriptions pour déterminer si les revendications ont un minimum de fondement. Les revendications qui, à cette étape, seront considérées comme étant fondées seront soumises au CIC, après approbation finale d'un jury spécialement formé pour s'occuper de l'arrière. Les demandeurs seront alors autorisés à présenter une demande de résidence permanente.

Q.3 Certaines sources soutiennent que le nombre de
 revendeurs qui font partie de l'arrière est en fait plus
 élevé. Qu'en est-il?

R.3 Aux fins de planification, nous avons pris comme base un
 nombre total de 85 000 cas. Mais il y a au Canada d'autres
 personnes qui sont des personnes à charge de celles qui
 ont présenté une demande. Certaines de ces personnes à
 charge ont également soumis une revendication. Afin de
 faciliter l'élimination de l'arrière, la plupart des
 personnes à charge relevant des revendeurs dont la
 demande aura été acceptée deviendront résidents permanents au
 même titre que le chef de famille, pourvu qu'ils satisfassent
 aux dispositions réglementaires. Cependant, aucun membre de
 la famille considéré comme personne à charge ne se verra
 refuser une audience individuelle, si nous sommes saisis
 d'une demande en ce sens. Les revendeurs autorisés de
 séjour et les gens qui ont pris d'assaut les Centres
 d'Immigration du Canada afin de présenter des demandes à la
 dernière minute contribuent également à gonfler les
 chiffres.

Groupe II - comprend environ 6 000 personnes qui sont arrivées au Canada, entre mai 1986 et février 1987, en provenance des pays figurant sur l'ancienne liste B-1. Un permis du Ministère leur avait alors été délivré.

Groupe III - comprend les demandeurs dont l'enquête a été ajournée en vertu de la Loi sur l'immigration et qui n'ont pas fait l'objet d'un interrogatoire sous serment (environ 12 000 cas). La plupart de ces personnes sont arrivées au Canada entre décembre 1987 et mars 1988.

Groupe IV - comprend les personnes qui sont arrivées au Canada surtout entre mars et décembre 1988 et qui ont fait l'objet d'un rapport en application de la Loi sur l'immigration ou qui se sont présentées de leur plein gré à un Centre d'immigration du Canada (CIC) (environ 37 000 cas). Aucune de ces personnes n'a fait l'objet d'une enquête de l'immigration.

QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES

Processus d'élimination de l'arrière

Q.1 Qu'est-ce que le processus d'élimination de l'arrière?

R.1 Le processus d'élimination de l'arrière est une méthode semblable au nouveau processus de reconnaissance du statut de réfugié, lequel est destiné à traiter les revendications des nouveaux arrivants. Ce processus a été mis en place pour régler environ 85 000 revendications du statut de réfugié présentées sous l'ancien processus de reconnaissance du statut de réfugié et pour lesquelles une décision n'a pas été rendue avant le 1^{er} janvier 1989. Toutes les personnes admissibles dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière se feront entendre devant un jury, composé d'un arbitre et d'un membre de la nouvelle Commission de l'immigration et du statut de réfugié (CISR), qui déterminera si la revendication comporte un minimum de fondement. Le processus permet également, à différentes étapes, de tenir compte de considérations humanitaires.

Q.2 Quelles revendications font partie de l'arrière?

R.2 Les demandeurs dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière sont répartis en quatre groupes, c'est-à-dire :

Groupe I - comprend environ 30 000 cas pour lesquels il existe déjà une transcription de l'interrogatoire sous serment. Il s'agit des revendications les plus anciennes.

Elle est également conforme aux obligations du Canada à l'échelle internationale et permet de protéger les réfugiés authentiques.

La méthode retenue pour éliminer l'arrière des demandeurs de statut de réfugié est conforme aux principes des nouvelles mesures législatives concernant la reconnaissance du statut de réfugié. Elle prévoit le traitement équitable, efficace et accéléré des revendications fondées et le rejet de celles qui ne le sont manifestement pas.

Sommaire

Commission de l'immigration et du statut de réfugié qui confirmera définitivement qu'elles ont un minimum de fondement. Les demandeurs du **Groupe I**, dont la demande sera accueillie favorablement par le jury, pourront faire une demande de résidence permanente s'ils satisfont aux exigences prescrites.

Les demandeurs peuvent quitter le Canada de leur plein gré et présenter, à l'étranger, une demande d'immigration à destination du Canada suivant les voies habituelles. S'ils agissent ainsi avant d'être frappés de renvoi, ils n'auront pas à demander l'autorisation du Ministère pour revenir. En outre, on leur remettra des lettres d'introduction qu'ils pourront présenter à l'ambassade ou à l'un des consulats du Canada dans leur pays d'origine, et les agents des visas prendront en considération, lors de leur évaluation, le fait que ces personnes connaissent le Canada.

Les demandeurs qui sont expulsés devront obtenir l'autorisation du Ministère avant de revenir au Canada, à titre de visiteur ou d'immigrant, même si par ailleurs ils satisfont aux exigences d'admission.

Examen de la transcription -- Vérification du bien-fondé

Il ne sera pas nécessaire d'appliquer la méthode d'élimination de l'arrière exposée ci-dessus à certaines revendications du **Groupe I**. Depuis le mois de mars 1989, toutes les revendications du **Groupe I** sont examinées par des fonctionnaires d'Emploi et Immigration Canada à l'Administration centrale pour vérifier si elles comportent un minimum de fondement. Les demandes qui auront été recommandées parce qu'ayant un minimum de fondement à ce stade seront envoyées à un jury spécial formé d'un arbitre et d'un membre de la

Ce processus de révision est le même que celui appliqué à l'égard des personnes frappées de renvoi en vertu du nouveau processus en vigueur depuis le 1er janvier 1989 et ce, parce que l'un ou l'autre des membres du jury n'a pas reconnu un minimum de fondement à la revendication du statut de réfugié de ces personnes lors de l'audition de leur requête.

Les critères appliqués à cet égard avant le renvoi sont plus larges que ceux appliqués à l'entrevue préliminaire et garantissent que ne sont pas renvoyées dans leur pays d'origine les personnes qui risquent d'y subir de mauvais traitements ou de connaître de graves difficultés en raison de leur situation.

Les demandeurs qui ne satisfont pas aux conditions humanitaires et pour lesquels les jurys spéciaux n'ont pas reconnu un minimum de fondement de leur revendication seront renvoyés à l'enquête. Si l'arbitre à l'enquête prononce ultérieurement l'ordonnance de renvoi suivant les voies de droit régulières, de hauts fonctionnaires à l'Administration centrale procéderont au dernier examen afin de vérifier s'il existe des considérations humanitaires avant de faire exécuter l'ordonnance de renvoi.

Ces entrevues se tiendront dans de nouveaux CIC, à Montréal, Toronto et Vancouver, chargés uniquement de régler les cas faisant partie de l'arrière. Dans les autres régions, les entrevues se dérouleront dans les CIC réguliers.

Comme dans le cas du processus de reconnaissance du statut de réfugié en vigueur depuis le 1^{er} janvier 1989, à la première audience, pour qu'une revendication soit rejetée, le membre de la CISR et l'arbitre doivent tous les deux être d'accord. Si l'un des deux juge que la revendication comporte un minimum de fondement, le demandeur pourra entreprendre les démarches en vue d'obtenir la résidence permanente, sous réserve de satisfaire aux conditions prescrites concernant la santé, la criminalité et l'autonomie financière.

Considérations humanitaires

A compter du printemps ou de l'été, selon la région où réside le demandeur, les agents d'immigration des Centres d'Immigration du Canada (CIC) procéderont à une première évaluation des revendications des demandeurs du statut de réfugié avant que ces derniers ne se présentent devant un jury. En appliquant les critères existants, les agents feront subir des entrevues pour déterminer, dans chaque cas, s'il existe des considérations humanitaires pour accorder la résidence permanente.

Par exemple, si les demandeurs ont des membres de la catégorie de la famille déjà établis au Canada, ils pourront solliciter le statut de résident permanent immédiatement, à condition qu'ils satisfassent aux exigences prescrites. A ce moment, il n'y aura pas d'audience devant le jury à moins que le demandeur ne le désire.

Les demandeurs se présenteront devant un jury spécial composé de deux personnes, un arbitre de l'Immigration et un membre de la section du statut de la Commission de l'Immigration et du statut de réfugié (CISR). Ces jurys, une cinquantaine au minimum, chargés d'examiner exclusivement les revendications faisant partie de l'arrière, entreprendront leurs activités au printemps 1989 dans les régions autres que le Québec, l'Ontario et la Colombie-Britannique et, à l'été, dans ces dernières régions.

Audiences devant un jury

Processus d'élimination de l'arrière

Groupe IV : comprend environ 37 000 demandeurs qui sont arrivés surtout entre mars et décembre 1988 et qui avaient fait l'objet d'un rapport en application de la Loi sur l'Immigration ou qui s'étaient présentés de leur plein gré à un Centre d'Immigration du Canada (CIC). Ce groupe comprend, entre autres, des gens du Panama et de Trinidad.

Groupe III : comprend environ 12 000 demandeurs qui sont arrivés surtout entre décembre 1987 et mars 1988 et qui ne sont pas rendus à l'étape de l'interrogatoire sous serment en vertu de l'ancien système après la tenue de l'enquête. Des Iraniens, des Sri Lankais, des Ghanéens et des Chiliens font partie de ce groupe.

Élimination de l'arrière

Élimination de l'arrière

Les quelque 85 000 demandeurs dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière ont été répartis en quatre grands groupes selon l'étape du processus de reconnaissance où en était rendue leur revendication sous l'ancien système en vigueur avant le 1^{er} janvier 1989.

Groupe I : comprend environ 30 000 des plus vieux cas faisant partie de l'arrière (au Canada depuis mai 1986). Les demandeurs de ce groupe ont subi leur interrogatoire sous serment selon l'ancien système. La plupart de ces demandeurs sont Portugais, Chânois, Sri Lankais, Turcs et Brésiliens.

Groupe II : comprend environ 6 000 demandeurs, lesquels sont arrivés entre mai 1986 et février 1987 et sont titulaires d'un permis du Ministre selon les dispositions de l'ancienne liste B-1. La majorité de ces personnes proviennent du Salvador, du Guatemala, de Sri Lanka et de l'Iran.

Il faudra approximativement deux ans pour vérifier si les 85 000 cas faisant partie de l'arrière sont fondés. Les demandeurs dont la revendication ne comporte pas de minimum de fondement seront renvoyés du Canada s'il n'existe aucune considération humanitaire justifiant qu'ils y restent.

Les demandeurs dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière peuvent quitter le Canada de leur plein gré. Ce faisant, ils peuvent présenter une demande d'admission au Canada à n'importe quel moment et ce, en se soumettant aux critères de sélection de l'immigration. Des lettres d'introduction seront remises aux demandeurs qui agissent ainsi pour qu'ils les présentent à un bureau des visas à l'étranger. Le fait que l'intéressé connaît le Canada sera pris en considération lors du traitement de sa demande.

Depuis le 12 janvier 1989, les demandeurs dont la revendication fait partie de l'arrière sont autorisés à travailler, car les dispositions réglementaires concernant le permis de travail ont été modifiées. Les documents joints (document d'information, questions et réponses) fournissent des renseignements détaillés sur l'annonce d'aujourd'hui.

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89-05

Processus d'élimination de l'arrière

Emploi et Immigration Canada a donné aujourd'hui plus de précisions sur la méthode choisie pour examiner les revendications du statut de réfugié présentées avant le 1^{er} janvier 1989.

L'étude de 30 000 des plus anciens cas a commencé en mars 1989. On procède à l'examen de la transcription de l'interrogatoire sous serment dont ont fait l'objet les intéressés en vertu de l'ancien processus.

Comme l'a annoncé Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, le 28 décembre 1988, l'arrière d'environ 85 000 revendications du statut de réfugié sera éliminé grâce à une méthode semblable au processus de reconnaissance du statut de réfugié en vigueur depuis le 1^{er} janvier 1989 en vue de traiter les revendications des nouveaux arrivants.



For release

April 11, 1989

89-06

Labour Force Development Strategy

OTTAWA -- Minister of Employment and Immigration Barbara McDougall today announced the details of the government's new Labour Force Development Strategy. The government plan, as announced in the Throne Speech, is a two-pronged strategy to help Canadian workers take advantage of new opportunities in the labour market.

Mrs. McDougall outlined programs that include increased assistance to the private sector for human resource planning and training, special help for displaced older workers, more job-related education for young people, and programs to support long-term economic revitalization of small communities.

"We must build upon the success of the Canadian Jobs

.... /2

Strategy and, in consultation with business, labour organizations, and the provincial governments, develop new ways to respond to the needs of the Canadian labour market," Mrs. McDougall said.

The Labour Force Development Strategy will help more Canadians find work by increasing private sector training efforts, creating an ethic of lifelong learning, expanding training and adjustment programs that have proven successful, and shifting the focus of the Unemployment Insurance program from passive income support to a more active involvement in the labour market.

"The government knows that Canadians want to work. We will therefore use Unemployment Insurance funds to actively help the unemployed find jobs. There will be faster, easier access to counselling, training, and re-employment programs. The Unemployment Insurance program will continue to be an integral part of Canada's social system," Mrs. McDougall said.

The Minister also promised more generous UI benefits for new parents and workers aged 65 and over, as well as measures that address changing work patterns and comply with equality provisions in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"Our goal is to improve the UI system and current labour market programs. These improvements redirect funds to new, more effective ways to help unemployed Canadians," Mrs. McDougall added.

(See attached backgrounders)

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BACKGROUNDER 1
THE CANADIAN JOBS STRATEGY

The Canadian Jobs Strategy (CJS) is based on three principles:

- help should go first to those who need it most;
- programs and services should be used that best meet the need; and
- decision-making should be done at the local level.

Since the CJS was introduced in September 1985, three-quarters of a million Canadians have benefited from its programs.

Elements of the Canadian Jobs Strategy

Job Development assists the long-term unemployed through on-the job training and classroom experience. In 1987/88, there were 110,000 participants, at a federal cost of \$596.8 million.

Job Entry is directed to people who have difficulty entering or re-entering the labour market; specifically, women, young people, and the severely-employment disadvantaged. In 1987/88, 160,600 people participated in the program, at a federal cost of \$486.4 million.

Skill Shortages assists employers to train workers in skills where there are existing or expected labour shortages. In 1987/88, 99,800 workers were trained in new skills at a federal cost of \$234.7 million.

Skill Investment focuses on workers (including those who have recently lost their jobs) whose jobs are changing because of technological or market changes. In 1987/88, 25,600 workers upgraded their skills at a federal cost of \$65.5 million.

Community Futures addresses the needs of small and rural communities with chronically high unemployment. In 1987/88, support for training, small business development, entrepreneurship, and relocation was given to members of 177 communities at a cost of \$71.5 million.

Innovations encourages the development and testing of new and innovative solutions to labour market problems. In 1987/88, \$36.2 million was invested in various proposals.

BACKGROUNDER 2
REINFORCEMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR TRAINING

Initiatives to encourage private sector training will include:

1. Human resource planning and training
2. Entry-level skills development
3. Industrial Adjustment Service
4. Community Futures

1. Human Resource Planning and Training

Currently, EIC officials help industries, sectors, and occupational associations to plan for changes in their personnel needs, using EIC programs and services. Management and labour at both sectoral and individual company level, are helped to:

- develop human resource plans;
- incorporate employment equity objectives;
- design and implement training strategies, where appropriate, in conjunction with community colleges and/or other training institutes; and
- undertake more training of their own workers.

EIC's efforts to promote human resource planning in the private sector have resulted in human resource planning agreements with such major sectoral organizations as the Canadian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturing Industry and the Canadian Automotive Repair and Service Industry.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to increase funds for human resource planning by \$65 million. This highly successful program was introduced a few years ago on a small scale. It has answered a growing need within the private sector. The government has therefore decided to fund it as a major initiative within the Labour Force Development Strategy.

Additional resources will be used to expand current services. New services will include assistance in building networks of industry associations, unions, and training institutions with common human resource concerns.

2. Entry-Level Skills Development

Currently, EIC has a number of programs under the Canadian Jobs Strategy to assist young people to make the transition from school to work. Among these are Co-operative Education and the Apprenticeship program.

Co-operative Education funds work/study programs for secondary and post-secondary students. Courses are arranged through post-secondary institutions, secondary school boards, provincial/territorial governments, and national non-profit associations. The budget for Co-operative Education is \$8.1 million.

Under the Apprenticeship program, the federal government has agreements with the provinces and territories to fund the classroom training, and, in some instances, on-the-

job training as well. EIC's contribution, however, is largely financial. The provinces/territories are responsible for providing training and certification. The federal government spends \$160 million a year in support of apprenticeship. In 1988/89, 36,000 men and women were enrolled in provincial apprenticeship programs across Canada. The largest number are in Ontario.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to offer an additional **\$100 million** to support entry-level skills development. This support is based on two principles:

- to expand private sector participation in skills development and training; and
- to pursue the federal objectives of: employment equity, standardization of training among institutions and regions, certification based on competency rather than duration of training, and portability of credentials.

The government will:

- work closely with industry and provinces/territories to improve their apprenticeship programs to bring them in line with current labour market needs.
- consult with industry on a major new program geared to growing occupations, such as those in the service sector (eg., financial and business

management, hospitality, home care for the elderly);
and

-- quadruple funds for Co-operative Education,
focusing support at the secondary school level.

3. Industrial Adjustment Service

Currently, the Industrial Adjustment Service (IAS) encourages employers and staff to work together to solve such problems as obsolete skills, the need for new technology, human resource planning, and layoffs. It has an annual budget of \$15 million and signs about 500 new agreements each year involving more than 317,000 workers.

Following the signing of an IAS agreement, a committee is drawn up with equal representation from management and workers. The IAS will assume up to 50 per cent of the cost of the committee. The IAS consultant provides technical advice, information about government programs, and assistance in the consultative and planning process.

Established in 1963, IAS has helped to retrain workers or find them new jobs, helped floundering businesses recover and prosper, help business adapt to new technologies, and helped communities to find solutions to their economic difficulties. Among the firms that have benefited from IAS are Firestone Canada and International Forest Products.

One of the most highly regarded of EIC's programs, IAS has served as a model to other countries. It has been

endorsed by the Economic Council of Canada and the Advisory Council on Adjustment (de Grandpré).

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to double the IAS budget, with an increase of \$15 million. The added resources will allow about 1,000 firms and communities to be served each year.

4. Community Futures

Currently, Community Futures (a Canadian Jobs Strategy program) is at work in about 200 small or rural communities across Canada. Its allocation for 1989/90 is \$134 million.

Community Futures helps communities faced with chronic unemployment and economic decline because of mass layoffs and plant closures. It has a flexible, co-operative approach that can respond to initiatives proposed by the communities themselves.

Community Futures offers four options, which it can fund for up to five years:

- Business Development Centres provide locally managed technical and advisory services to small businesses and can also fund loans of up to \$75,000;
- Self-Employment Incentives provide \$180 a week for one year to enable unemployed individuals to start their own businesses;

- Community Initiative Fund matches funds from other sources for local projects designed to generate new permanent jobs; and
- Relocation and travel assistance.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to add **\$50 million** to the Community Futures budget in 1990/91. Most of the new funds are not intended to fund investment and loans by Business Development Centres.

BACKGROUNDER 3
INITIATIVES TO HELP THE UNEMPLOYED

Initiatives to help the unemployed will include:

1. Employment assistance for UI claimants
 - a. UI Act, Section 26
 - b. National Employment Service
2. Help for social assistance recipients
3. Help for displaced older workers
4. Self-employment, entrepreneurship, and mobility assistance

1. Employment Assistance for UI Claimants

a. Unemployment Insurance Act, Section 26

Currently, UI claimants can continue to receive benefits while taking an approved training course, as authorized under Section 26 of the UI Act. The 1988/89 funding level for this program was set at \$485 million. There are two components: UI income support, \$255 million; and course purchases and training allowances under the Canadian Jobs Strategy (CJS), \$230 million.

In 1988/89, about 74,000 people were trained under Section 26. They fall into three groups: apprentices (36,000); fee-payers who are not eligible to receive training costs under CJS but pay for their own tuition (12,000); and CJS clients (26,000).

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes an increase of \$350 million for Section 26 training. In

addition to the UI income support that would be payable in any event, the government would allocate \$90 million to income support. CJS course costs and training allowances would receive \$260 million.

An additional 60,000 non-apprentice trainees would be offered training under this program. Unemployed workers requiring updated job skills would be the main target group.

Decisions on how best to implement this proposal will be made after consultations with the private sector and the provinces.

b. National Employment Service

Currently, the National Employment Service (NES), through Canada Employment Centres, provides three types of service to workers and employers:

- labour market information;
- the labour exchange, which matches job opportunities with available, qualified workers; and
- adjustment services, which encourage human resource planning by the private sector and the adjustment of enterprises and individuals to changing labour market conditions.

The Labour Market Development Strategy proposes that the National Employment Service offer more intensive assistance to unemployed workers who need special help. By directing job seekers to the services they need at an

earlier stage in their unemployment, NES will help Canadians to get back to work more quickly.

2. Help for Social Assistance Recipients

Currently, the federal and provincial/territorial governments participate in joint initiatives to help 40,000 social assistance recipients (SARs) a year to acquire the necessary skills and experience to become self-sufficient. In 1989/90, the budget for this initiative was \$600 million. It is financed by:

- \$200 million financed solely by the federal government;
- \$200 million from the federal and provincial governments under a 50/50 cost-sharing agreement with the provinces; and
- \$200 million financed solely by the provincial government.

The federal portion (\$200 million) of the federal-provincial agreements is financed through funds that would otherwise be spent on income maintenance through the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP).

SAR programming has had a high success rate of more than 50 per cent.

The Labour Market Development Strategy proposes to consult with the provinces about increasing the cost-shared allocation. The federal government is prepared to commit **\$50 million** to this purpose. Together with the

\$50 million ordinarily spent on CAP, and with matching provincial funds, there would be \$200 million more to improve employment prospects for an additional 20,000 social assistance recipients

3. Help for Displaced Older Workers

Currently, older workers have access to EIC programs and services through the Canadian Jobs Strategy and employment services. In November 1988, the Minister announced new services tailored to older worker needs. These include retraining programs, job-finding clubs, and an expanded Self-Employment Incentive option within the Community Futures program.

The Labour Market Development Strategy proposes to increase current services to displaced older workers by \$100 million. The Continuing Employment Option will receive an additional \$40 million to provide up to three years support to employers who hire and retrain displaced workers. Some \$50 million will finance skills training and educational upgrading through Section 26 of the UI Act and in co-operation with the provinces.

Other avenues of assistance include the IAS, re-employment incentive pilot projects that subsidize early re-employment at lower wage rates, and Labour Canada's POWA program. In addition, older workers will be targeted for self-employment and mobility assistance.

4. Self-Employment, Entrepreneurship, and Mobility Assistance

Currently, self-employment and entrepreneurship are supported mainly through Community Futures (a Canadian Jobs Strategy program). This program is active in more than 200 non-metropolitan communities across Canada. Participating communities have access to:

- Business Development Centres, which provide technical/ advisory services to small businesses, and which can also fund loans of up to \$75,000; and

- the Self-Employment Incentive option, which gives unemployed persons who are trying to become self-employed \$180 a week for up to a year, in lieu of social assistance or unemployment insurance.

Current mobility assistance is also provided through the Canadian Jobs Strategy. Workers who are in danger of losing their jobs or who have already lost their jobs because of technological or market changes can collect up to \$5,000 to aid in relocation.

In 1988/89 (as of February 28, 1989), 4,308 workers received assistance, for a total cost of about \$6,369,000.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to expand the self-employment, entrepreneurship, and mobility programs by \$45 million.

About \$20 million would be allocated for new entrepreneurial activity. UI recipients with a viable business plan would be allowed to capitalize benefits in one lump sum to assist them with business start-up costs. It is expected that 4,000 workers would participate each year in this program.

About \$25 million would be allocated for mobility assistance. Capitalization of UI benefit entitlement, up to a maximum of \$10,000, would also be allowed for the purpose of relocation.

BACKGROUNDER 4
NEW UI BENEFIT PROVISIONS

1. Maternity/parental/sickness (special) benefits
2. Benefits for those over 65 years of age
3. Other UI changes

1. Maternity/Parental/Sickness (Special) Benefits

Currently, maternity benefits are available for 15 weeks to natural mothers only. Adoption benefits are available for 15 weeks to either adoptive parent. Claimants must have worked at least 20 weeks in the previous year to be eligible for special benefits.

If a woman claims more than one type of special benefit (eg., a combination of sickness and maternity) within the same claim, the total number of weeks cannot exceed 15.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to completely revise the current regime of maternity, parental, and sickness benefits. The government intends to propose amendments that will substantially increase the flexibility and duration of benefits and meet the requirements of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The annual cost of this proposal is expected to be **\$450 million**.

The following new, multi-tiered system of special benefits is proposed:

- 15 weeks of maternity benefits in the period surrounding the birth of a child;

- 10 weeks of parental benefits, available to natural or adoptive parents, either mother or father, or shared between them as they deem appropriate; and
- 15 weeks of sickness benefits.

More than one type of benefit could be claimed within the same claim period, up to a cumulative maximum of 30 weeks (eg., seven weeks of sickness, 15 weeks of maternity, and eight weeks of parental benefits). In addition, claimants would be able to receive special benefits in combination with regular benefits, but the total could not exceed 30 weeks or the maximum regular benefit entitlement, whichever was greater.

2. Benefits for Those Over 65 Years of Age

Currently, workers aged 65 and over do not pay UI premiums, nor are they eligible to collect UI benefits if they lose their jobs. Workers are paid a special three-week lump sum when they reach age 65 if they have worked at least 20 weeks in the previous year. For those who turn 65 while in the middle of a UI claim, benefits automatically end.

The Labour Market Development Strategy proposes that this provision of the UI Act be amended to recognize the fact that more Canadians are choosing to work beyond age 65 and to comply with the equality provisions in the Charter. The annual cost of this proposal is expected to be \$40 million.

Workers who are 65 or over would pay UI premiums. They would then be entitled to UI benefits if they lose their jobs, as long as they meet the usual qualifying conditions.

3. Other UI Changes

The bill to amend the UI Act would also include miscellaneous proposals to clarify wording and to simplify administration. Most of these proposals are minor technical amendments. One change, however, is more significant. The government intends to amend the Act to eliminate unfair restrictions on access to maternity/parental/sickness benefits during labour disputes. The annual cost of this proposal is expected to be \$25 million.

BACKGROUNDER 5

AMENDMENTS TO THE UI ACT: ACCESS TO UI BENEFITS

Proposed amendments to the UI Act take into account the different degrees of difficulty workers face in finding jobs due to Canada's widely varying labour market conditions.

UI's important role in income maintenance will continue at the same time as disincentives to work are reduced, particularly in economically buoyant areas.

These changes are consistent with the current structure and further the government's goals of maintaining an economic safety net in regions where it is needed while re-directing funds from passive to more active uses.

The reform of provisions governing access to UI benefits will include:

1. Minimum entrance requirements
2. Duration of benefits
3. Penalties for those who quit work without just cause
4. Penalties for fraudulent use of the UI program

1. Minimum Entrance Requirements

Current minimum entrance requirements in Canada's UI program are among the lowest in the world. Claimants need from 10 to 14 weeks of work to qualify for benefits, depending on the regional unemployment rate.

Claimants who have collected UI benefits within the past year may have to work up to six extra weeks to qualify for benefits. This is called the "repeater clause".

TABLE 1: CURRENT VARIABLE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

<u>Regional Unemployment</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Weeks of Work Needed</u> <u>to Qualify for UI</u>
6.0% and under	14
Over 6.0% - 7.0%	13
Over 7.0% - 8.0%	12
Over 8.0% - 9.0%	11
Over 9.0%	10

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes amendments that will retain the UI program's sensitivity to regional economic conditions but raise minimum qualifying periods in most areas. Claimants will need from 10 to 20 weeks of work to qualify for benefits, depending on the regional unemployment rate.

However, in recognition of the special situation of seasonal workers, the repeater clause will be eliminated.

TABLE 2: PROPOSED VARIABLE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

<u>Regional Unemployment</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Weeks of Work Needed</u> <u>To Qualify for Benefits</u>
6.0% and under	20
Over 6.0% - 7.0%	19
Over 7.0% - 8.0%	18
Over 8.0% - 9.0%	17
Over 9.0% - 10.0%	16
Over 10.0% - 11.0%	15
Over 11.0% - 12.0%	14
Over 12.0% - 13.0%	13
Over 13.0% - 14.0%	12
Over 14.0% - 15.0%	11
Over 15.0%	10

2. Duration of Benefits

Current duration of UI benefits is based on a complicated three-phase benefit structure which takes into account the number of weeks worked by the claimant and the regional unemployment rate.

Under the Initial phase, claimants receive one week of benefits for each week worked, up to a maximum of 25 weeks. Once a claimant has exhausted benefits in this phase, it may be possible to claim benefits under the Labour Force Extended phase. This offers one week of benefits for every two weeks worked (less the first 25 weeks), up to a maximum of 13 weeks.

After these benefits have run out, a claimant may be able to claim benefits under the Regional Extended phase. This grants two weeks of benefits, up to a maximum of 32 weeks, for each 0.5 percentage point the regional unemployment rate is above 4 per cent.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to simplify the benefit structure. Duration of benefits would continue to be based on weeks worked and the regional rate of unemployment, but the current three-phase structure would be streamlined into a single phase.

In addition, except in those areas with the highest unemployment rates, the maximum benefit period would be reduced.

TABLE 3

Proposed Amendment to UI Benefit Schedule
Number of Weeks Claimant Can Receive Benefits
• Unemployment Rate in Claimant's Region •

	6% and under	over 6% to 7%	over 7% to 8%	over 8% to 9%	over 9% to 10%	over 10% to 11%	over 11% to 12%	over 12% to 13%	over 13% to 14%	over 14% to 15%	over 15% to 16%	over 16%
10											37	39
11										36	38	40
12									35	37	39	41
13								34	36	38	40	42
14							33	35	37	39	41	43
15						30	34	36	38	40	42	44
16					27	31	35	37	39	41	43	45
17				24	28	32	36	38	40	42	44	46
18			21	25	29	33	37	39	41	43	45	47
19		19	22	26	30	34	38	40	42	44	46	48
20	17	20	23	27	31	35	39	41	43	45	47	49
21	18	21	24	28	32	36	40	42	44	46	48	50
22	19	22	25	29	33	37	41	43	45	47	49	
23	20	23	26	30	34	38	42	44	46	48	50	
24	21	24	27	31	35	39	43	45	47	49		
25	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48	50		
26	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48			
27	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49			
28	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49			
29	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48	50			
30	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48				
31	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49				
32	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49				
33	26	29	32	36	40	44	48	50				
34	26	29	32	36	40	44	48					
35	27	30	33	37	41	45	49					
36	27	30	33	37	41	45	49					
37	28	31	34	38	42	46	50					
38	28	31	34	38	42	46						
39	29	32	35	39	43	47						
40	29	32	35	39	43	47						
41	30	33	36	40	44	48						
42	30	33	36	40	44	48						
43	31	34	37	41	45	49						
44	31	34	37	41	45	49						
45	32	35	38	42	46	50						
46	32	35	38	42	46							
47	33	36	39	43	47							
48	33	36	39	43	47							
49	34	37	40	44	48							
50	34	37	40	44	48							
51	35	38	41	45	49	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
52	35	38	41	45	49	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

The combination of higher entrance requirements and revised benefit schedule is expected to result free up **\$770 million** in 1990.

3. Penalties for Those Who Quit Work Without Just Cause

Currently, benefits are reduced at the beginning of a claim, by one to six weeks, in addition to the two-week waiting period, for workers who quit their jobs without just cause. The penalty averages two and a half weeks. The benefit rate is the same (60 per cent) as for other claimants.

These penalties also apply to workers who are fired for misconduct or who refuse a suitable job while claiming UI benefits.

Under the present UI program, more than \$1 billion a year are paid in benefits to claimants who have quit without just cause.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to increase the penalties for workers who quit without just cause, refuse a suitable job, or are fired for misconduct. This proposal is expected to result in savings of **\$450 million** in 1990.

The penalty would increase to seven to 12 weeks of lost benefits. Further, these claimants would receive a lower benefit rate than other claimants: 50 per cent of insured earnings instead of 60 per cent.

No penalty would be imposed on workers who leave their employment with just cause, such as hazardous working conditions, sexual harassment, or to follow a spouse.

4. Penalties for Fraudulent Use of the UI Program

The most common type of employee UI fraud is the failure to report income from work while collecting UI benefits.

Currently, the UI Act provides for prosecution or administrative penalties in cases of fraud committed by workers.

The maximum fine a court may impose on a claimant is \$500 for each offence. The present maximum administrative penalty for claimants is three times the benefit rate.

In cases of employer fraud, the UI Act provides only for prosecutions.

The Labour Force Development Strategy proposes to strengthen significantly the penalties for fraudulent use of the UI program by both employers and workers.

Aucune pénalité ne serait imposée aux travailleurs qui quittent leur emploi pour une raison valable, telles des conditions de travail dangereuses, le harcèlement sexuel ou la réinstallation du conjoint.

4. Pénalités imposées à ceux qui font un usage frauduleux du Régime d'assurance-chômage

La fraude la plus fréquemment commise à l'égard du Régime d'assurance-chômage par un travailleur consiste à ne pas déclarer des revenus provenant d'un emploi pendant la durée de la période de prestations.

A l'heure actuelle, la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage prévoit des poursuites judiciaires ou des pénalités administratives pour les fraudes commises par les travailleurs.

L'amende maximale que peut imposer un tribunal à un prestataire est de 500 \$ par infraction. La pénalité administrative maximale qui est actuellement imposée aux prestataires correspond à trois fois le taux de prestations.

Dans le cas de fraudes commises par des employeurs, la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage ne prévoit que des poursuites judiciaires.

Dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé d'imposer des pénalités beaucoup plus sévères tant aux employeurs qu'aux travailleurs en cas d'utilisation frauduleuse du Régime d'assurance-chômage.

3. Pénalités imposées à ceux qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable

A l'heure actuelle, le versement des prestations est retardé d'une à six semaines, en plus du délai de carence de deux semaines, dans le cas des travailleurs qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable. Cette pénalité est en moyenne de deux semaines et demie. Le taux des prestations est le même (60 %) que celui des autres prestataires.

Cette pénalité est également imposée aux travailleurs qui sont renvoyés pour inconduite ou qui refusent un emploi convenable tout en touchant des prestations d'assurance-chômage.

A l'heure actuelle, plus de un milliard de dollars sont versés en prestations aux demandeurs qui ont abandonné le travail sans raison.

Dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population

active, il est proposé d'imposer des pénalités plus sévères aux travailleurs qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable, qui refusent un emploi convenable ou qui sont renvoyés pour inconduite. Une telle proposition devrait permettre de réaliser des économies de 450 millions de dollars en 1990.

La période d'exclusion maximale s'accroîtrait pour se situer entre 7 et 12 semaines. En outre, le taux des prestations versées à ces prestataires serait inférieur à celui des autres prestataires : 50 % de la rémunération assurable plutôt que 60 %.

TABLEAU 3

Modifications proposées au barème des prestations d'A.-c.

Nombre de semaines de prestations d'A.-c.

• Taux de chômage de la région du prestataire.

[illegible]

S e n a t o r

En outre, sauf dans les régions où le taux de chômage est le plus élevé, la durée maximale de la période de prestations serait réduite.

Le relèvement des normes d'admissibilité et la révision du barème des prestations devraient permettre de réaliser des économies de **770 millions de dollars** en 1990.

2. Durée de la période de prestations

A l'heure actuelle, la durée de la période de prestations est fondée sur une structure complexe à trois phases qui tient compte du nombre de semaines de travail accumulées par le prestataire et du taux de chômage régional.

Au cours de la phase initiale, les prestataires reçoivent une semaine de prestations pour chaque semaine de travail accumulée jusqu'à concurrence de 25 semaines. Lorsque le prestataire a épuisé les prestations de la phase I, il peut demander des prestations applicables à la phase de prolongation des prestations fondée sur la durée d'emploi. Il peut ainsi percevoir une semaine de prestations pour chaque période de deux semaines de travail accumulées (en sus des 25 premières semaines) jusqu'à concurrence de 13 semaines. Une fois ses prestations épuisées, le prestataire a la possibilité de demander des prestations applicables à la phase des prestations de prolongation fondée sur le taux de chômage régional. Il peut ainsi recevoir deux semaines de prestations, jusqu'à concurrence de 32 semaines, pour chaque demi-point de pourcentage lorsque le taux de chômage régional est supérieur à 4 %.

Dans la stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé de simplifier la structure des prestations. La durée de la période de prestations continuerait d'être fondée sur le nombre de semaines de travail et sur le taux chômage régional, mais la structure actuelle à trois phases serait ramenée à une structure à une seule phase.

Dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé de modifier le Régime d'assurance-chômage de façon à lui conserver sa réceptivité aux conditions économiques régionales tout en allongeant les périodes de référence minimales dans la plupart des régions. Les prestataires devront accumuler de 10 à 20 semaines de travail pour devenir admissibles au bénéfice des prestations, selon le taux de chômage régional.

Toutefois pour tenir compte de la situation particulière des travailleurs saisonniers, la disposition relative aux réitérants sera supprimée.

TABLÉAU 2

NORME VARIABLE D'ADMISSIBILITÉ PROPOSÉE

Taux de chômage régional	Nombre de semaines d'emploi assurable nécessaire
6 % et moins	20
Plus de 6 % à 7 %	19
Plus de 7 % à 8 %	18
Plus de 8 % à 9 %	17
Plus de 9 % à 10 %	16
Plus de 10 % à 11 %	15
Plus de 11 % à 12 %	14
Plus de 12 % à 13 %	13
Plus de 13 % à 14 %	12
Plus de 14 % à 15 %	11
Plus de 15 %	10

1. Normes d'admissibilité minimales

Les normes minimales d'admissibilité **actuelles** au Régime d'assurance-chômage au Canada comptent parmi les moins sévères du monde. Selon le taux de chômage régional, les prestataires doivent accumuler de 10 à 14 semaines de travail pour être admissibles au bénéfice des prestations.

Les demandeurs qui ont touché des prestations d'assurance-chômage au cours de l'année écoulée peuvent devoir travailler de une à six semaines de plus pour devenir admissibles au bénéfice des prestations. C'est ce que l'on appelle la disposition relative aux réitérants.

TABLEAU 1

NORME VARIABLE D'ADMISSIBILITÉ

Taux de chômage	régional	Nombre de semaines de travail	ouvrant droit aux prestations d'a.-c.
6 % et moins		14	
Plus de 6 % à 7 %		13	
Plus de 7 % à 8 %		12	
Plus de 8 % à 9 %		11	
Plus de 9 %		10	

ACCÈS AUX PRESTATIONS D'ASSURANCE-CHÔMAGE

Les modifications proposées à la loi sur l'assurance-chômage tiennent compte des difficultés qu'éprouvent, à des degrés divers, les travailleurs à trouver un emploi en raison des conditions très variables du marché du travail au Canada.

On conservera au Régime d'assurance-chômage son rôle important de régime de maintien du revenu tout en en supprimant les éléments qui incitent à l'inactivité, en particulier dans les régions où l'économie est vigoureuse.

Ces modifications s'accordent avec le Régime actuel et viennent appuyer les objectifs que poursuit le gouvernement de maintenir une protection de l'économie dans les régions où le besoin se fait sentir tout en réaffectant des crédits dans des secteurs plus productifs.

La réforme des dispositions régissant l'accès aux prestations d'assurance-chômage portera notamment sur les éléments suivants :

1. Normes d'admissibilité minimales
2. Durée de la période de prestations
3. Pénalités imposées à ceux qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable
4. Pénalités imposées à ceux qui font une utilisation frauduleuse du Régime d'assurance-chômage.

En revanche, on propose un changement d'importance majeure. Le gouvernement a l'intention de modifier la Loi en vue d'éliminer les restrictions inéquitables visant l'accès aux prestations de maternité, de maladie et aux prestations parentales pendant les conflits de travail. Le coût annuel de cette proposition est évalué à 25 millions de dollars.

2. Prestations pour les personnes âgées de plus de 65 ans

Actuellement, les travailleurs âgés de 65 ans et plus ne versent pas de cotisations d'assurance-chômage et ne sont pas admissibles aux prestations s'ils perdent leur emploi. On leur verse un montant forfaitaire spécial égal à trois fois le taux de prestation hebdomadaire aussitôt qu'ils atteignent l'âge de 65 ans et moyennant qu'ils aient exercé un emploi pendant au moins 20 semaines au cours de l'année précédente. S'ils reçoivent des prestations d'assurance-chômage, celles-ci cessent automatiquement dès qu'ils atteignent 65 ans.

La stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active propose de modifier cette disposition de la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage pour reconnaître le fait qu'un plus grand nombre de Canadiens choisissent de travailler après avoir atteint l'âge de 65 ans, et pour se conformer aux dispositions de la Charte canadienne sur le droit à l'égalité. Le coût annuel de cette proposition est évalué à **40 millions de dollars**.

Les travailleurs âgés de 65 ans ou plus verseraient des cotisations d'assurance-chômage. Ils seraient admissibles aux prestations d'assurance-chômage s'ils perdaient leur emploi, moyennant qu'ils répondent aux conditions requises habituellement.

3. Autres changements au Régime d'assurance-chômage

Le projet de loi visant à modifier la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage contiendra également diverses propositions visant à clarifier le libellé de la Loi et à simplifier l'administration. La plupart des modifications proposées sont mineures.

Dans le cadre de la **Stratégie de mise en valeur de la**

population active, le gouvernement propose de modifier complètement le régime actuel des prestations de

maternité et de maladie et des prestations parentales. Les amendements proposés visent à assouplir

considérablement le Régime ainsi qu'à prolonger la durée de la période d'indemnisation et ils répondent aux

exigences de la Charte des droits et libertés. Le coût annuel de la proposition serait de 450 millions de

dollars.

Voici en quoi consiste le nouveau système à plusieurs niveaux proposé pour les prestations spéciales :

- 15 semaines de prestations de maternité pendant la période entourant la naissance d'un enfant;
- 10 semaines de prestations parentales, payables aux parents naturels ou aux parents adoptifs, au père ou à la mère, ou partagées entre le père et la mère de la façon qui leur convient;
- 15 semaines de prestations de maladie.

Il serait possible de demander plus d'un genre de prestations pendant la même période de prestations, jusqu'à concurrence d'un maximum de 30 semaines en tout (par exemple, sept semaines de prestations de maladie, 15 semaines de prestations de maternité et huit semaines de prestations parentales). En outre, les prestataires pourraient recevoir des prestations spéciales combinées avec des prestations ordinaires, mais seulement jusqu'à concurrence de 30 semaines ou du nombre maximum de prestations hebdomadaires ordinaires auxquelles le bénéficiaire a droit, s'il en a droit à plus de 30.

NOUVELLES DISPOSITIONS CONCERNANT LES PRESTATIONS
D'ASSURANCE-CHOMAGE

1. Prestations (spéciales) de maternité, de maladie et parentales
2. Prestations pour les personnes âgées de plus de 65 ans
3. Autres modifications apportées au Régime d'assurance-chômage

1. Prestations (spéciales) de maternité, de maladie et parentales

Actuellement, les prestations de maternité sont payables pendant 15 semaines aux mères naturelles seulement. Les prestations d'adoption sont payables pendant 15 semaines à l'un ou l'autre parent adoptif. Pour avoir droit aux prestations spéciales, les bénéficiaires doivent avoir travaillé au moins 20 semaines pendant l'année qui précède.

Si une femme demande plus d'un genre de prestations spéciales (par exemple une combinaison de prestations de maladie et de prestations de maternité) pendant la même période de prestations, le nombre total de prestations hebdomadaires qu'elles peut recevoir ne peut dépasser 15.

aiderait à assumer les coûts du lancement de leur
entreprise.

Environ 25 millions de dollars seraient réservés pour
l'aide à la mobilité. Un prestataire
d'assurance-chômage pourrait pour des fins de
réinstallation, toucher une allocation maximale de
10 000 \$, totalisant les prestations auxquelles il
aurait droit.

-- l'option Encouragement à l'activité indépendante dans le cadre duquel des chômeurs qui essaient de travailler à leur compte peuvent recevoir 180 \$ par semaine, pendant une période maximale d'un an, en remplacement de prestations d'aide sociale ou d'assurance-chômage.

La planification de l'emploi prévoit également une aide à la mobilité. Ainsi, des travailleurs qui sont menacés de perdre leur emploi ou qui l'ont déjà perdu à cause de l'évolution technologique ou de changements du marché peuvent percevoir jusqu'à 5 000 \$ pour se réinstaller ailleurs.

En 1988-1989, au 28 février 1989, 4 308 travailleurs avaient reçu de l'aide, ce qui a porté le coût global de cette initiative à environ 6,369 millions de dollars. Il est proposé dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active de réserver 45 millions de dollars de plus aux programmes d'aide à l'activité indépendante, au lancement d'une entreprise et à la mobilité.

Environ 20 millions de dollars seraient alloués pour aider les chômeurs à lancer leur entreprise. Les prestataires d'assurance-chômage qui présenteraient un plan d'entreprise viable pourraient percevoir un montant forfaitaire totalisant leurs prestations, ce qui les

Quelque 50 millions de dollars serviront à subventionner la formation professionnelle et le recyclage prévus à l'article 26 de la loi sur l'assurance-chômage et ce, en collaboration avec les provinces.

Parmi les autres formes d'aide, mentionnons le Service d'aide à l'adaptation de l'industrie (SAI), les projets pilotes d'encouragement au réemploi permettant de subventionner le réemploi rapide à des salaires inférieurs, ainsi que le programme PATA de Travail Canada. En outre, l'aide à l'emploi indépendant et à la mobilité sera davantage axée sur les travailleurs âgés.

4. Aide à l'activité indépendante, au lancement d'une entreprise et à la mobilité

A l'heure actuelle, l'activité indépendante et la création d'entreprises sont encouragées principalement par le Programme Développement des collectivités (un des axes de la Planification de l'emploi). Ce programme est mis en oeuvre dans plus de 200 collectivités situées en dehors des grands centres urbains, partout au Canada. Les collectivités qui participent au Programme ont accès aux services suivants :

-- des centres d'aide aux entreprises, qui offrent des services de consultation et d'aide technique aux petites entreprises ainsi que des prêts pouvant aller jusqu'à 75 000 \$ par firme;

A l'heure actuelle, les travailleurs âgés ont accès aux programmes et aux services d'EIC par l'entremise de la planification de l'emploi et des services d'emploi. En novembre 1988, la Ministre a annoncé de nouveaux services adaptés aux besoins des travailleurs âgés, notamment les Clubs de placement, les programmes de recyclage et une option améliorée intitulée Encouragement à l'activité indépendante, dans le cadre du Programme Développement des collectivités.

La Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active propose d'augmenter de 100 millions de dollars le budget des services actuellement offerts aux travailleurs âgés déplacés. L'option Emploi continu recevra une somme supplémentaire de 40 millions de dollars afin d'offrir aux employeurs une aide pendant une période maximale de trois ans pour leur permettre d'embaucher et de recruter les travailleurs déplacés.

3. Aide aux travailleurs âgés déplacés

Il est proposé dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active de consulter les provinces pour accroître les allocations à coûts partagés. Le gouvernement fédéral est disposé à engager 50 millions de dollars à cette fin. Avec les 50 millions de dollars consacrés normalement au Programme d'aide aux prestataires (PAP) et les fonds correspondants versés par les provinces, on augmenterait de 200 millions de dollars les fonds consacrés à l'amélioration des perspectives d'emploi dont pourraient tirer profit quelque 10 000 bénéficiaires de l'aide sociale de plus.

2. Aide pour les bénéficiaires de l'aide sociale

A l'heure actuelle, les gouvernements fédéral et provinciaux ou territoriaux participent à des initiatives conjointes pour aider, chaque année, quelque 40 000 bénéficiaires de l'aide sociale à acquérir les compétences et l'expérience nécessaires pour devenir autonomes. Pour 1989-1990, le budget de cette initiative est fixé à 600 millions de dollars et prévoit les sources de financement suivantes :

-- 200 millions de dollars fournis en entier par le gouvernement fédéral;

-- 200 millions de dollars dont la moitié provient du gouvernement fédéral et l'autre, des provinces, en vertu d'une entente de partage de coûts;

-- 200 millions de dollars fournis en entier par le gouvernement provincial.

La moitié des 200 millions de dollars que verse le gouvernement fédéral dans le cadre d'ententes

fédérales-provinciales est financée au moyen de fonds qui seraient autrement consacrés au maintien du revenu dans le Régime d'assistance publique du Canada (RAPC).

Les programmes destinés aux bénéficiaires de l'aide sociale ont affiché un taux de réussite de plus de 50 p. 100, ce qui est considéré élevé pour ce groupe.

On décidera de la meilleure approche pour mettre en oeuvre cette proposition une fois qu'on aura consulté le secteur privé et les provinces.

b. Service national d'emploi

A l'heure actuelle, le Service national d'emploi (SNE) fournit, par l'entremise des Centres d'Emploi du Canada, trois types de services aux travailleurs et aux employeurs, soit :

- des renseignements sur le marché du travail;
- un service de placement, qui consiste à jumeler les travailleurs qualifiés et les postes vacants;
- un service d'aide à l'adaptation qui encourage le secteur privé à faire une bonne planification de ses ressources humaines et qui aide les entreprises et les particuliers à s'adapter aux conditions changeantes du marché du travail.

Il est proposé dans la stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active de faire en sorte que le Service national d'emploi offre une aide plus intensive aux chômeurs qui requièrent une attention spéciale. En orientant les personnes à la recherche d'un emploi vers les services dont elles ont besoin et ce, dès le début de leur période de chômage, le SNE aidera les Canadiens à retourner sur le marché du travail plus rapidement.

l'année 1988-1989. Il comporte deux volets : le soutien de cours et des prestations de formation qui s'inscrivent dans la Planification de l'emploi (PE), 230 millions de dollars.

En 1988-1989, environ 74 000 personnes ont reçu de la formation en vertu de l'article 26. Ces personnes se divisaient en trois groupes : les apprentis (36 000), les stagiaires payants qui n'étaient pas admissibles au remboursement des frais engagés dans le cadre des programmes de formation de la PE mais qui payaient eux-mêmes leurs frais de scolarité (12 000) et les clients de la PE (26 000).

Il est proposé dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active d'augmenter de 350 millions de dollars les fonds consacrés à la formation offerte en vertu de l'article 26. En plus des sommes qui seraient normalement payables au titre du soutien du revenu en vertu de l'assurance-chômage, le gouvernement allouerait encore 90 millions de dollars à ce chapitre. Il faudrait réserver 260 millions de dollars pour absorber les coûts des cours et accorder des allocations de formation dans le cadre de la PE.

Le nombre de stagiaires non apprentis qui seraient invités à participer à ce programme de formation augmenterait de 60 000. On s'adresserait d'abord aux chômeurs qui ne possèdent pas de compétences à jour.

MESURES ENVISAGÉES POUR AIDER LES CHÔMEURS

Les mesures envisagées pour aider les chômeurs comprendront :

1. De l'aide liée à l'emploi à l'intention des prestataires d'assurance-chômage.

- a. Loi sur l'assurance-chômage, article 26
- b. Service national d'emploi

2. De l'aide pour les bénéficiaires de l'aide sociale

3. De l'aide pour les travailleurs âgés déplacés
4. L'aide à l'activité indépendante au lancement d'une entreprise et à la mobilité

1. Aide liée à l'emploi à l'intention des prestataires d'assurance-chômage
2. Loi sur l'assurance-chômage, article 26

A l'heure actuelle, les prestataires

d'assurance-chômage peuvent continuer de tirer des prestations tout en suivant un cours de formation approuvé, conformément aux dispositions de l'article 26 de la Loi sur l'a.-c. Le niveau de financement de ce régime est fixé à 485 millions de dollars pour

-- l'option Encouragement à l'activité indépendante verse 180 \$ par semaine pendant un an à des chômeurs pour leur permettre de se lancer en affaires;

-- le Fonds pour les initiatives communautaires accorde une mise égale aux fonds d'autres sources pour la réalisation de projets locaux destinés à créer des emplois permanents;

-- l'option Aide au déplacement et aide de voyage.

Dans la stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé d'augmenter de 50 millions de dollars le budget de 1990-1991 du Programme Développement des collectivités. La majeure partie de cette somme servira à assurer des fonds d'investissement et à financer des prêts que consentiront les Centres d'aide aux entreprises.

Dans la stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé d'augmenter de 15 millions de dollars le budget du SAAI, c'est-à-dire de le doubler. Les nouvelles ressources permettront de desservir environ 1 000 entreprises et collectivités chaque année.

4. Programme Développement des collectivités

En ce moment, le Programme Développement des collectivités (de la planification de l'emploi) est en oeuvre dans environ 200 petites collectivités canadiennes situées en milieu urbain ou rural. Les crédits qui lui sont alloués pour 1989-1990 sont de l'ordre de 134 millions de dollars.

Le Programme Développement des collectivités vient en aide aux collectivités où sévit un chômage de longue durée et dont l'activité économique est à la baisse en raison de licenciements collectifs et de la fermeture d'usines. Sa formule souple axée sur la collaboration permet de réaliser les initiatives proposées par la collectivité même.

Le Programme Développement des collectivités comprend quatre options qui peuvent être financées pour une période maximale de cinq ans :

-- Les Centres d'aide aux entreprises offrent aux petites entreprises des services techniques et consultatifs gérés au niveau local et peuvent aussi leur consentir des prêts d'un plus

75 000 \$;

problèmes que posent notamment les compétences désuètes, le besoin de technologies nouvelles, la planification des ressources humaines et les licenciements. Le budget annuel du SAAI atteint 15 millions de dollars, et, chaque année, environ 500 nouveaux accords sont signés en vertu de ce programme, touchant plus de 317 000 travailleurs.

Après la signature d'un accord du SAAI, un comité paritaire est formé. Le SAAI assume jusqu'à 50 pour cent des frais du comité. L'expert-conseil du SAAI donne des conseils techniques, fournit des renseignements sur les programmes du gouvernement et offre son aide durant le processus de consultation et de planification.

Créé en 1963, le SAAI a aidé des travailleurs à se recycler ou à trouver un nouvel emploi, des entreprises en difficulté à se redresser, à prospérer et à s'adapter aux nouvelles technologies, et des collectivités à trouver des solutions à leurs problèmes économiques. Firestone Canada et International Forest Products font partie des entreprises qui ont tiré profit du SAAI. Le SAAI, qui est l'un des programmes d'EIC auquel on porte le plus grand intérêt, a servi de modèle dans d'autres pays. Il a l'appui du Conseil économique du Canada et du Conseil consultatif sur l'adaptation (rapport de Grandpré).

-- chercher à atteindre les objectifs fédéraux dans les domaines suivants : équité en matière d'emploi, normalisation de la formation entre les établissements et entre les régions, attestation en fonction des compétences plutôt qu'en fonction de la durée de la formation et transférabilité des unités (ou crédits).

Le gouvernement :

-- travaillera en collaboration avec les secteurs industriels, les provinces et les territoires afin d'améliorer les programmes d'apprentissage;

-- consultera les secteurs industriels à propos de tout nouveau programme important axé sur les professions en croissance, comme certaines professions du secteur des services (par exemple gestion financière et gestion d'entreprise, hôtellerie, soins à domicile pour les personnes âgées); et

-- quadruplera les fonds réservés aux programmes d'alternance travail-études, centrant ses efforts au niveau secondaire.

3. Service d'aide à l'adaptation de l'industrie

Actuellement, le Service d'aide à l'adaptation de l'industrie (SAAI) encourage les employeurs et les travailleurs à unir leurs efforts afin de résoudre les

La première option finance, comme son nom l'indique, des programmes d'alternance travail-études à l'intention des étudiants des niveaux secondaire et postsecondaire. La partie "études", c'est-à-dire les cours, est offerte par les établissements postsecondaires, les conseils scolaires de niveau secondaire, les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux de même que les associations nationales sans but lucratif. Le budget de cette option s'élève à 8,1 millions de dollars.

En vertu du programme d'apprentissage, le gouvernement fédéral a signé des accords avec les provinces et les territoires afin de financer la formation en classe et, dans certains cas, la formation en cours d'emploi. La contribution d'ÉIC est, cependant, surtout financière, les provinces et les territoires étant responsables d'assurer la formation et l'attestation des compétences. Chaque année, le gouvernement fédéral consacre quelque 160 millions de dollars au soutien de l'apprentissage. En 1988-1989, 36 000 personnes, des hommes et des femmes de toutes les régions du Canada, ont participé à des programmes d'apprentissage provinciaux. Signalements que la clientèle la plus importante se trouve en Ontario.

Dans la stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé de consacrer 100 millions de dollars de plus au soutien de l'acquisition des compétences. Cet appui repose sur deux buts :

-- accroître la participation du secteur privé à l'acquisition des compétences et à la formation; et

Les efforts d'EIC visant à promouvoir la planification des ressources humaines dans le secteur privé ont donné lieu à des accords de planification des ressources humaines avec les grandes organisations telles que l'Industrie des manufacturiers d'équipement électrique et électronique du Canada et la Canadian Automotive Repair and Service Industry.

Dans la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active, il est proposé de consacrer 65 millions de dollars de plus à la planification des ressources humaines. Cette Stratégie, lancée à petite échelle il y a quelques années, a connu un vif succès. Elle a répondu à un besoin croissant au sein du secteur privé. Le gouvernement a donc décidé d'y accorder un financement d'importance dans le cadre de la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active.

Parmi les nouveaux services, il y aura une aide à l'établissement de réseaux d'associations sectorielles, de syndicats et d'organismes de formation ayant des préoccupations communes en matière de ressources humaines.

2. Acquisition des compétences du niveau de débutant

A l'heure actuelle, EIC dispose de plusieurs programmes, dans le cadre de la planification de l'emploi, pour aider les jeunes à réussir la transition entre le monde des études et celui du travail. Parmi ceux-ci on compte les options Alternance travail-études et le programme d'apprentissage.

DONNÉES DOCUMENTAIRES 2

RENFORCEMENT DE LA FORMATION DANS LE SECTEUR PRIVÉ

Les initiatives suivantes font partie des mesures proposées en faveur d'une formation dans le secteur privé :

1. Planification et formation des ressources humaines;
2. Acquisition des compétences de débutant;
3. Service d'aide à l'adaptation de l'industrie;
4. Programme Développement des collectivités.

1.

Planification et formation des ressources humaines

Actuellement, les représentants d'EIC aident les secteurs industriels et les associations professionnelles à planifier des changements en matière de personnel à l'aide des programmes et services d'EIC. Ils prêtent main-forte aux dirigeants et aux travailleurs tant au niveau du secteur qu'au niveau de l'entreprise dans les domaines suivants :

- élaboration de plans de ressources humaines;
- insertion d'objectifs pour l'équité en matière d'emploi;
- conception et mise en oeuvre de stratégies de formation, s'il y a lieu, en collaboration avec les collèges communautaires et d'autres établissements de formation, et
- accroissement de la formation des travailleurs en poste.

Le Programme Développement des collectivités vise à répondre aux besoins des collectivités petites ou rurales qui sont aux prises avec des problèmes de chômage chronique. En 1987-1988, les citoyens de 177 collectivités ont profité de services de soutien à la formation, d'aide au développement des petites entreprises, d'aide aux entrepreneurs et d'aide à la réinstallation, qui ont coûté 71,5 millions de dollars.

Le Programme d'aide à l'innovation favorise l'élaboration et la mise à l'essai de nouvelles solutions novatrices aux problèmes du marché du travail. En 1987-1988, 36,2 millions de dollars ont été investis pour la réalisation de divers projets.

Le Programme Intégration Professionnelle vise à aider les personnes qui ont de la difficulté à s'intégrer ou à se réintégrer au marché du travail, plus particulièrement les femmes, les jeunes et les personnes fortement défavorisées sur le plan de l'emploi. En 1987-1988, 160 600 personnes ont participé au programme, et la contribution fédérale a été de de 486,4 millions de dollars.

Le Programme relatif aux pénuries de main-d'oeuvre aide les employeurs à former des travailleurs à des métiers où il y a ou aura pénurie de main-d'oeuvre. En 1987-1988, 99 800 travailleurs ont pu acquérir de nouvelles compétences grâce au programme, et la contribution fédérale a été de 234,7 millions de dollars.

Le Programme Acquisition de compétences est destiné aux travailleurs qui viennent de perdre leur emploi ou à ceux dont les emplois changent en raison de l'évolution technologique ou de l'évolution du marché. En 1987-1988, 25 600 travailleurs ont élargi leurs compétences, ce qui a représenté une dépense de 65,5 millions de dollars pour le gouvernement fédéral.

LA PLANIFICATION DE L'EMPLOI

La Planification de l'emploi (PE) se fonde sur trois principes :

- l'aide doit aller à ceux qui en ont le plus besoin ;
- ce sont les programmes et services qui répondent le mieux aux besoins qui doivent être utilisés ;
- les décisions sont prises au niveau local.

Depuis la mise en oeuvre de la Planification de l'emploi, en septembre 1986, trois quarts de millions de Canadiens ont bénéficié des programmes offerts.

Éléments de la Planification de l'emploi

Le Programme Développement de l'emploi vise à aider les chômeurs de longue date, grâce à des programmes de formation en milieu de travail et en établissement. En 1987-1988, 110 000 personnes ont participé au programme et la contribution fédérale a été de 596,8 millions de dollars.

"Notre objectif consiste à améliorer le Régime d'assurance-chômage et les programmes actuels relatifs au marché du travail. De telles améliorations permettent de réaffecter des fonds à des façons nouvelles et plus efficaces d'aider les chômeurs canadiens", a conclu Mme McDougall.

- 30 -

(Voir les documents d'information ci-joints)

Renseignements :

Cabinet du Ministre
Ian Sadinski
(819) 994-2482
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Affaires publiques
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Sylvia McKenzie
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La Ministre a également promis des prestations d'assurance-chômage plus généreuses pour les nouveaux parents et les travailleurs âgés de plus de 65 ans ainsi que des mesures qui tiennent compte des changements dans l'organisation du travail, afin de respecter les dispositions de la Charte des droits et libertés relatives à l'égalité.

"Le gouvernement sait que les Canadiens veulent travailler. Nous utiliserons donc les fonds affectés à l'assurance-chômage pour aider activement les chômeurs à trouver un emploi. L'accès aux programmes de counselling, de formation et de réemploi sera plus rapide et plus facile. Le Régime d'assurance-chômage demeurera l'une des assises des mesures sociales du Canada", a ajouté Mme McDougall.

La Stratégie de mise en valeur des ressources humaines aidera davantage de Canadiens à trouver du travail en permettant d'accroître les mesures de formation du secteur privé, en les convainquant d'acquérir des connaissances tout au long de leur vie, en donnant de l'expansion aux programmes de formation et d'adaptation qui se sont révélés efficaces et en veillant à ce que le Régime d'assurance-chômage ne soit plus axé sur le soutien du revenu passif, mais plutôt sur un engagement plus poussé à l'égard du marché du travail.

Pour publication

April 11, 1989

89-06

Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui le détail de la nouvelle stratégie de mise en valeur de la population active. Le projet du gouvernement, tel qu'annoncé dans le discours du trône, est de mettre sur pied une stratégie en deux volets visant à aider les travailleurs canadiens à profiter des nouvelles possibilités qu'offre le marché du travail.

Mme McDougall a donné un aperçu des programmes, qui comprennent une aide accrue au secteur privé pour la planification et la formation des ressources humaines, une aide spéciale aux travailleurs âgés déplacés, de l'instruction d'avantage axée sur les carrières pour les jeunes, ainsi que des programmes à l'appui de la revitalisation économique à long terme des petites collectivités.

"Nous devons nous fonder sur le succès obtenu par la planification de l'emploi et, en consultant les milieux d'affaires, les organisations de travailleurs et les gouvernements provinciaux, élaborer de nouvelles façons de répondre aux besoins du marché du travail canadien", a déclaré Mme McDougall.

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Employment and
Immigration Canada



Emploi et
Immigration Canada

Canada

114F (5-85)



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For release

May 2, 1989

89-07



OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced the formation of a special committee to provide input to the Minister on the application of the Business Immigration Program.

The new Business Immigration Advisory Committee is made up of 13 members drawn from the private sector. The names of 10 members are being announced today, and the remaining three members will be appointed at a later date. The first Chairperson of the committee is Dian Cohen, a well-known Canadian economist and business editor.

The committee's function will be to advise the Minister on any issues or developments relating to the Investor, Entrepreneur and Self-employed components of the Business Immigration Program. Under these three components, approximately 4,000 business immigrants and 9,000 dependents will come to Canada in 1989.

"The Business Immigration Program is a very important part of the government's overall immigration policy," said Mrs. McDougall. "Given the economic impact business immigrants can have on the Canadian labour market, this committee's evaluation and advisory role is of great importance."

.../2

Among other duties, the Advisory Committee will assess the success of monitoring procedures; target program areas which may be subject to abuse; identify changes in the small business environment which may affect program objectives; and evaluate the success of the Business Immigration Program in responding to small business needs.

All committee members represent either areas of the small business community that benefit from the skills and investments associated with the program or other private sector interests knowledgeable about the impact of the program. A list of Business Immigration Advisory Committee members and a short biography of each is attached.

For information:

Rick Perkins
Minister's Office
(819) 994-2482

BUSINESS IMMIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairperson

Dian Cohen
Cohen et Couture Associés
Montreal

Vice-Chairman

Michael J. Brown
President of Ventures West Management Inc.
Vancouver

Members

The Hon. Ronald G. Atkey, P.C.
Toronto

Angela Cantwell Peters
Chairman, President & C.E.O. of
Bowring Brothers Ltd. (Retired)
Halifax, N.S.

Melvin Weigel
Chairman, Immigration Section
Canadian Bar Association
Montreal

M.W. Petit
Vice-President
Eastern Region, Royal Trust
Montreal

Jocelyn Backman-Sampson
Vice-President and Director Special Product Development
(Retired) - Richardson, Greenshields
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Winnipeg, Manitoba

David Ross
William M. Mercer Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario

Eric Slavens
Laventhal and Horwath
Accounting and Management Consulting
Toronto, Ontario

Peter Stone
Milner and Steer
Commercial, Securities and Foreign Investment Law
Calgary, Alberta

Ex-officio

J.B. Bissett
Executive Director
Immigration
Department of Employment and Immigration

Dian Cohen - Chairperson

President of Dian Cohen Productions, an economics communications consulting firm, Ms. Cohen is also a well-known financial and economics editor with CTV News.

She is a member of the Economic Council of Canada, and a board member of the Public Policy Forum. A graduate of both the University of Toronto and McGill University, Ms. Cohen is a political economist, having attained degrees in both economics and political science.

Michael J. Brown - Vice-Chairman

Mr. Brown is President of Ventures West Management Inc., a Vancouver-based company which manages institutional venture capital funds.

He is the former chairman of MDI Mobile Data International, and a director of several corporations including Wardair Inc.

He is a graduate in Economics of the University of British Columbia, and Oxford University.

Ronald G. Atkey

Mr. Atkey, a former M.P. and Minister of Employment and Immigration under the Clark Administration, is a partner in the Toronto law firm of Osler, Hoskin and Harcourt. His areas of legal expertise include corporate and administrative law, with specialties in government regulation and international business.

Born in St. John, New Brunswick, Mr. Atkey graduated in law from the University of Western Ontario, was called to the Ontario Bar in 1969 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 1979.

He is Executive Vice-President and Director of Quorum Funding Corporation, a Director of Daiwa Bank Canada, British Gas (Canada) Ltd., Warner Communications (Canada) Ltd.

Married to lawyer Marie Rounding, he has four children.

Angela Cantwell Peters

A resident of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Ms. Peters was Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of Bowring Brothers Limited from 1947 until her retirement in 1984. She is currently a corporate Director of Cobi Foods Inc., Imasco Limited, The Prudential Canada Corporation, and Xerox Canada Inc.

She is a former Commissioner of the MacDonald Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada, and a member of the Standards Council of Canada.

Melvin Weigel

Currently Chairman of the Immigration Section of the Canadian Bar Association, Mr. Weigel practices law in Montreal, Quebec with the firm of Robert, Dansereau, Barre, Marchessault and Lauzon.

He is a graduate of McGill University and obtained his law degree from the Université de Montréal.

A specialist in public and administrative law, Mr. Weigel's particular area of expertise is immigration law.

Michel W. Petit

An experienced employee benefit and financial consultant, Mr. Petit is currently Vice-President of Corporate Financial Services (Eastern Region) for Royal Trust Company in Montreal.

A member of the Montreal Board of Trade, he is also a Director of the Royal Trust Company, the Montreal Extended Care Centre and the Bankers Trust Company.

He is a graduate of Sir George Williams College in Montreal, taking a degree in economics.

H. Jocelyn Bockman-Simpson

A graduate of the University of Manitoba, Ms. Bockman-Simpson was Vice-President and Director of Special Product Development with Richardson Greenshields of Canada Limited.

Since her retirement from that position in 1987, she has served as a Director and Member of the Audit Committee of Manfor Ltd in Winnipeg, and as a financial advisor to small businesses.

David F. Ross

A certified Management Consultant, Mr. Ross has been involved in business immigration for the last eight years. He is currently an Associate in the Strategy and Organization Group of William M. Mercer Ltd in Toronto.

He has been actively involved in assisting immigrant entrepreneurs to set up businesses in Canada. He has also provided advice to Canadian businesses on the Immigrant Investor Program.

Mr. Ross is a graduate of Queens University, and holds a Masters of Business Administration.

Peter A. Stone

A law partner of Milner and Steer in Calgary Alberta, Mr. Stone's areas of expertise include commercial, securities and foreign investment law.

He is a graduate in law from Oxford University, England and has been a speaker for both the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation. He is also an instructor for the Bar Admissions Course in Alberta.

Eric W. Slavens

A fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Mr. Slavens is a partner with Laventhal and Horwath, a Toronto-based accounting and management consulting firm.

Currently the Deputy Chairman of the Discipline Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, he is also actively involved with Horwath and Horwath International.

Married with two children, Mr. Slavens is a graduate of the University of Toronto where he obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree.



For release

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UI Amendments Introduced Into House of Commons

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today tabled amendments to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Act that will improve the program's ability to help workers adjust to change.

The legislation, part of the government's recently announced Labour Force Development Strategy "Success in the Works", strengthens the ability of the UI program to continue to act as an economic safety net by focusing on those in need, and allowing for more skills training as well as other measures to assist claimants to successfully adapt to changing labour market conditions. The amendments also bring the program into conformity with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.



"The UI Act is being updated to meet the needs of our times." Mrs. McDougall said. "The UI program must take a more active role in the labour market and must place a greater priority on developing workers' skills."

These changes to the UI Act will allow the government to greatly expand training and other re-employment assistance available to unemployed Canadians. The detailed program design will be subject to a consultative process to be carried out this summer and fall.

Other changes include a revision of the current system of maternity, parental and sickness benefits to make them more flexible and longer lasting.

The legislation also modifies the Act to extend unemployment insurance coverage to workers over the age of 65 and to people working for their spouses in a normal working relationship.

All these changes bring the Act in line with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Bill amends the schedule of entrance requirements and benefits in the manner set out in last April's policy announcement. The changes reflect the widely varying labour market conditions found across the country and focus principally on areas where unemployment is low.

As well, the new legislation will increase the penalties for those who quit their jobs without just cause, refuse a job, or are fired for misconduct. It raises the number of weeks these people must wait until they receive benefits and reduces their benefit rate.

The Bill also proposes several housekeeping amendments aimed at simplifying the administration of the program and increasing fairness and flexibility.

"The government, as well as the private sector, has the responsibility to ensure that unemployed Canadians have every opportunity to access the type of training and counselling required to rejoin and remain productive members of the Canadian labour force," Mrs. McDougall said.

(See attached backgrounders)

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BACKGROUNDER 1

ACCESS TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

1. Minimum entrance requirements
2. Duration of benefits

1. Minimum Entrance Requirements

Under **current** minimum entrance requirements, UI claimants need from 10 to 14 weeks of work to qualify for benefits, depending on the regional unemployment rate.

Claimants who have collected UI benefits within the past year may now have to work up to six extra weeks to qualify for benefits. This is called the "repeater clause".

TABLE 1: CURRENT VARIABLE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

<u>Regional Unemployment</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Weeks of Work Needed</u> <u>to Qualify for UI</u>
6.0% and under	14
Over 6.0% - 7.0%	13
Over 7.0% - 8.0%	12
Over 8.0% - 9.0%	11
Over 9.0%	10

The Bill proposes amendments that will retain the UI program's sensitivity to regional economic conditions but which raise minimum qualifying periods in most areas. Claimants will need from 10 to 20 weeks of work to qualify for benefits, depending on the regional unemployment rate.

However, in recognition of the special situation of seasonal workers, the repeater clause will be eliminated.

TABLE 2: PROPOSED VARIABLE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENT

<u>Regional Unemployment</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Weeks of Work Needed</u> <u>to Qualify for Benefits</u>
6.0% and under	20
Over 6.0% - 7.0%	19
Over 7.0% - 8.0%	18
Over 8.0% - 9.0%	17
Over 9.0% - 10.0%	16
Over 10.0% - 11.0%	15
Over 11.0% - 12.0%	14
Over 12.0% - 13.0%	13
Over 13.0% - 14.0%	12
Over 14.0% - 15.0%	11
Over 15.0%	10

2. Duration of Benefits

Current duration of UI benefits is based on a complicated three-phase benefit structure which takes into account the number of weeks worked by the claimant and the regional unemployment rate.

Under the Initial phase, claimants receive one week of benefits for each week worked, up to a maximum of 25 weeks. Once a claimant has exhausted benefits in this phase, it may be possible to claim benefits under the Labour Force Extended phase. This offers one week of benefits for every two weeks worked (beyond the first 25 weeks), up to a maximum of 13 weeks.

After these benefits have run out, a claimant may be able to claim benefits under the Regional Extended phase. This grants two weeks of benefits, up to a maximum of 32 weeks, for each 0.5 percentage point the regional unemployment rate is above 4 per cent. The total duration of benefits may not exceed 50 weeks.

The Bill proposes to simplify the benefit structure. Duration of benefits would continue to be based on weeks worked and the regional rate of unemployment, but the current three-phase structure would be streamlined into a single phase.

In addition, except in those areas with the highest unemployment rates, the maximum benefit period would be reduced.

Proposed Amendment to UI Benefit Schedule

Number of Weeks Claimant Can Receive Benefits

• *Unemployment Rate in Claimant's Region* •

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	6% and under	over 6% to 7%	over 7% to 8%	over 8% to 9%	over 9% to 10%	over 10% to 11%	over 11% to 12%	over 12% to 13%	over 13% to 14%	over 14% to 15%	over 15% to 16%	over 16%
10											37	39
11										36	38	40
12										37	39	41
13										38	40	42
14							33	34	35	37	39	41
15						30	34	36	38	40	42	44
16					27	31	35	37	39	41	43	45
17				24	28	32	36	38	40	42	44	46
18				25	29	33	37	39	41	43	45	47
19		19	21	26	30	34	38	40	42	44	46	48
20	17	20	23	27	31	35	39	41	43	45	47	49
21	18	21	24	28	32	36	40	42	44	46	48	50
22	19	22	25	29	33	37	41	43	45	47	49	
23	20	23	26	30	34	38	42	44	46	48	50	
24	21	24	27	31	35	39	43	45	47	49		
25	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48	50		
26	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48			
27	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49			
28	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49			
29	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48	50			
30	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48				
31	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49				
32	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49				
33	26	29	32	36	40	44	48	50				
34	26	29	32	36	40	44	48					
35	27	30	33	37	41	45	49					
36	27	30	33	37	41	45	49					
37	28	31	34	38	42	46	50					
38	28	31	34	38	42	46						
39	29	32	35	39	43	47						
40	29	32	35	39	43	47						
41	30	33	36	40	44	48						
42	30	33	36	40	44	48						
43	31	34	37	41	45	49						
44	31	34	37	41	45	49						
45	32	35	38	42	46	50						
46	32	35	38	42	46							
47	33	36	39	43	47							
48	33	36	39	43	47							
49	34	37	40	44	48							
50	34	37	40	44	48							
51	35	38	41	45	49	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
52	35	38	41	45	49		50	50	50	50	50	50

BACKGROUNDER 2

MATERNITY/PARENTAL/SICKNESS (SPECIAL) BENEFITS

Currently, maternity benefits are available for 15 weeks to natural mothers only. Adoption benefits are available for 15 weeks to either adoptive parent. Claimants must have worked at least 20 weeks in the previous year to be eligible for special benefits.

If a woman claims more than one type of special benefit (eg., a combination of sickness and maternity) within the same claim, the total number of weeks cannot exceed 15.

The Bill proposes to completely revise the current regime of maternity, parental, and sickness benefits. The amendments will substantially increase the flexibility and duration of benefits and meet the requirements of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The following new, multi-tiered system of special benefits is proposed:

- 15 weeks of maternity benefits in the period surrounding the birth of a child;

- 10 weeks of parental benefits, available to natural or adoptive parents, either mother or father, or shared between them as they deem appropriate; and

- a more flexible combination of regular, sickness, maternity and parental benefits.

More than one type of special benefit could be claimed within the same claim period, up to a cumulative maximum of 30 weeks (eg., seven weeks of sickness, 15 weeks of maternity, and eight weeks of parental benefits). In addition, claimants would be able to receive special benefits in combination with regular benefits, but the total could not exceed 30 weeks or the maximum regular benefit entitlement, whichever was greater.

BACKGROUND 3

OTHER UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CHANGES

1. Unemployment Insurance after the age of 65
2. Unemployment Insurance coverage for employer relatives
3. Penalties
4. Housekeeping amendments

1. Unemployment Insurance after the age of 65

Currently, workers aged 65 and over do not pay UI premiums, nor are they eligible to collect UI benefits if they lose their jobs. Workers are paid a special three-week lump sum when they reach age 65 if they have worked at least 20 weeks in the previous year. For those who turn 65 while in the middle of a UI claim, benefits automatically end.

The Bill proposes that this provision of the UI Act be amended to recognize the fact that more Canadians are choosing to work beyond age 65 and to comply with the equality provisions in the Charter.

Workers who are 65 or over would pay UI premiums. They would then be entitled to UI benefits if they lose their jobs, as long as they meet the usual qualifying conditions. However, the three-week lump sum payment would no longer be payable.

2. Unemployment Insurance coverage for employer relatives

Currently, individuals hired by their spouse or relatives are not considered to be dealing "at arms length" from their employer and therefore are unable to contribute to, or benefit from, Unemployment Insurance.

The Bill proposes that workers who are related to their employer be covered by Unemployment Insurance if they are dealing "at arms length". If they work under the same sort of employment contract as other workers who are not related to the employer, their employment will be insured and they will pay premiums. This means that if they become unemployed they will also be able to claim any benefits they are qualified for. Factors such as the pay, conditions, length, type and importance of their work will be used to decide whether or not their employment is insurable.

3. Penalties

Voluntary quits without just cause

Currently, benefits are delayed and reduced at the beginning of a claim, by one to six weeks, in addition to the regular two-week waiting period, for workers who quit their jobs without just cause. The additional penalty averages two and a half weeks. The benefit rate is the same (60 per cent) as for other claimants.

The Bill proposes that penalties for people who quit their jobs without just cause, are fired for misconduct, or refuse to take new ones, be increased.

Workers who have quit their jobs voluntarily or who were fired for misconduct or refused a suitable job will be disqualified for seven to twelve weeks.

The disqualifications will start after the waiting period and will be for periods when benefits would otherwise be payable. Any weeks of disqualification not served will be carried over to any future benefit period in the next six years, unless the worker gets a job for at least 20 weeks of insurable employment.

After the period of disqualification the amount of benefits will also be lowered to 50% of the claimant's average weekly insurable earnings. This lower benefit rate will continue for the rest of the benefit period.

However, a period of disqualification may be deferred if the claimant is eligible for illness, maternity or parental benefits.

Fraud

Currently, unemployed workers who knowingly give false information about their claim still face a penalty of up to three times their weekly benefit. But, employers who submit false information will now face penalties of up to nine times the maximum weekly benefits.

These penalties can only be given within three years of the fraud. But they can be deducted from future benefits for up to six years, or more if an appeal or review is conducted during this time.

Employers or employees who knowingly give false information can still be prosecuted instead of penalized. The fine for offences has been raised from \$500 to \$2 000 or six months in prison, or both.

4. Housekeeping amendments

Changes include:

Updating labour dispute provisions

From now on workers affected by strikes will be able to collect illness, maternity, parental and training benefits when leave was arranged or anticipated before the strike. On the other hand, claimants will be disentitled when they would have returned to work at the end of the leave if the strike is still continuing.

Repayments and Refunds

The Commission will now have six years (plus any appeal period) to receive a UI benefit debt. The current three year limit is often used up in appeals.

Premiums will now be refunded to workers or their employers who paid them while they were in uninsurable employment.

Extension benefit periods

Benefit periods can now be extended to 156 weeks (from 104) for training purposes.

No work periods

Self-funded leave and off-work periods earned in work with longer than regular hours are now eliminated from consideration as periods of unemployment.

Antedating

The Commission can now retroactively reconsider applications for premium reduction plans from employers. It can also antedate applications reasonably delayed.

The Commission will also be given authority to antedate renewed or continuing claims or requests to cancel or end a benefit period delayed with good reason.

Job exchanges

All job exchanges from abroad not paid by Canadian sources will be excluded from Canadian UI. Until now only exchange teachers were excluded.

Workers' Compensation

All temporary payments from Workers' Compensation will be considered as earnings and therefore deductible from benefits.

Supplementary Unemployment Benefit Plans

The Commission will be given regulatory authority to define the criteria for employer supplementary unemployment benefits plans and to exempt payments of the approved plans from deductible earnings.

BACKGROUNDER 4

DEVELOPMENTAL USES OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUNDS

Currently, UI claimants can receive benefits while taking an approved training course, as authorized under Section 26 of the UI Act. In 1988/89, about 74,000 people were trained under Section 26.

Under the new UI amendments, \$350 million of UI funds will be used to expand active developmental assistance under Section 26, to include training, relocation assistance, self-employment, and re-employment incentives. The detailed program design will be subject to a consultative process to be carried out this summer and fall.

1. Training programs

The UI Account will pay for administrative costs, course purchase, basic income support, and supplementary allowances for the care of dependent children, travelling, and living away from home while attending courses and programs. UI recipients will also have access to assessment, job search, and counselling services at an earlier stage in their claim.

2. Relocation assistance

UI claimants who wish to seek employment or to move where job prospects are better will be able to benefit from expanded relocation assistance under the new UI amendments. Some \$20 million will be allocated for relocation assistance and \$5 million for exploratory job search visits.

3. Self-employment and entrepreneurship

UI recipients with a viable business plan would be allowed to collect UI benefits while starting a business or becoming self-employed.

4. Re-employment incentives

Some UI funds will be set aside to finance re-employment incentives.

2. Aide au déplacement

Les prestataires d'assurance-chômage désireux de chercher du travail ou de déménager dans une région qui leur offre de meilleurs débouchés pourront bénéficier d'une aide au déplacement accrue, en vertu des nouvelles modifications à la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage. Quelque 20 millions de dollars seront consacrés à l'aide au déplacement et, 5 millions de dollars, aux visites de prospection.

3. Travail autonome et entrepreneuriat

Les prestataires d'assurance-chômage munis d'un plan d'entreprise viable seraient autorisés à toucher des prestations d'assurance-chômage pour se lancer en affaires ou devenir des travailleurs indépendants.

4. Mesures en faveur du réemploi

Une partie de la Caisse d'assurance-chômage sera réservée pour financer les mesures en faveur du réemploi.

UTILISATION DE LA CAISSE D'ASSURANCE-CHOMAGE A DES FINS PRODUCTIVES

Actuellement, les prestataires d'assurance-chômage peuvent continuer de toucher des prestations pendant qu'ils suivent un cours de formation approuvé, conformément à l'article 26 de la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage. En 1988-1989, 74 000 personnes environ ont été formées aux termes de l'article 26.

En vertu des nouvelles modifications à la Loi sur

L'assurance-chômage, 350 millions de dollars de la Caisse d'assurance-chômage serviront à accroître l'aide actuellement fournie aux termes de l'article 26, pour offrir des programmes de formation, d'aide au déplacement, d'entrepreneuriat et de réemploi. Toute la conception des nouveaux programmes sera soumise à un processus de consultation devant avoir lieu à l'été ou à l'automne.

1. Programmes de formation

Le Compte d'assurance-chômage sera utilisé pour payer les frais administratifs, l'achat de cours, le soutien du revenu de base et les allocations supplémentaires pour la garde des enfants à charge, les déplacements et les séjours hors du foyer des personnes concernées pendant qu'elles suivent un cours ou participent à un programme.

Les prestataires d'assurance-chômage auront également accès à des services d'évaluation, de recherche d'emploi et de counselling plus tôt, au cours de leur période de prestations.

Indemnité pour accident du travail

Tous les paiements provisoires versés comme indemnité pour accident du travail auront valeur de rémunération et par conséquent seront déductibles des prestations.

Régime de prestations supplémentaires de chômage

La Commission aura le pouvoir de définir les critères des régimes de prestations supplémentaires de chômage des employeurs et d'exempter des gains déductibles les paiements provenant des régimes approuvés.

Les cotisations seront désormais remboursées aux travailleurs qui les ont payées alors qu'ils exerçaient un emploi non assurable.

Prolongation de la période de prestations

Les périodes de prestations établies pour les besoins de la formation sont maintenant de 156 semaines (104 auparavant).

Périodes de congé

Les congés autofinancés et les congés accumulés en travaillant un nombre d'heures supérieur aux heures normales ne seront plus considérés comme des périodes de chômage.

Antidatation

La Commission peut maintenant reconsidérer avec effet rétroactif les demandes de réduction du taux de la cotisation présentées par les employeurs. Elle peut également antidater les demandes dont le retard est justifié.

La Commission aura également le pouvoir d'antidater les demandes renouvelées et les demandes continues ou les demandes d'annulation ou visant à mettre fin à une période de prestations, sous réserve de motifs valables.

Programmes d'échange

Tous les emplois exercés au Canada dans le cadre d'un programme d'échange qui ne sont pas rémunérés par des employeurs canadiens seront exclus du Régime canadien d'assurance-chômage. Jusqu'à présent, seuls les professeurs étaient exclus.

Ces pénalités ne peuvent être infligées que pendant les trois années qui suivent le moment où la fraude a été commise, mais elles peuvent être déduites du montant des prestations à percevoir, sur une période maximale de six années ou plus s'il y a appel ou révision dans l'intervalle.

Les employeurs et les employés qui font de fausses déclarations peuvent toujours faire l'objet de poursuites au lieu d'être pénalisés. La peine est maintenant plus sévère : le contrevenant est passible d'une amende qui est passée de 500 à 2 000 dollars et d'un emprisonnement de six mois, ou des deux peines.

4. Modifications d'ordre administratif

Les changements sont les suivants :

Mise à jour des dispositions concernant les conflits collectifs

Désormais, les travailleurs touchés par des conflits de travail pourront recevoir des prestations de maladie, de maternité, de formation et des prestations parentales s'ils avaient pris des dispositions en vue d'un congé avant le début du conflit collectif. En revanche, les prestataires ne seraient pas admissibles aux prestations lorsqu'ils retournent au travail à la fin de leur congé si le conflit collectif n'est pas terminé.

Remboursements

La Commission aura maintenant six ans (plus toute période d'appel) pour se faire rembourser les prestations. La limite actuelle de trois ans se passe souvent en appels.

Dans le cas des travailleurs qui quittent volontairement leur emploi, qui sont renvoyés pour inconvénient ou qui refusent un emploi convenable, la période d'exclusion sera de sept à douze semaines.

La période d'exclusion débutera après le délai de carence et s'appliquera aux périodes pour lesquelles des prestations auraient autrement été versées. Les semaines d'exclusion qui n'auront pas été exécutées seront reportées sur la prochaine période de prestations établie dans les six prochaines années, à moins que le travailleur n'occupe entre temps un emploi assurable pendant au moins 20 semaines.

Après la période d'exclusion, le taux de prestations sera également ramené à 50 % de la rémunération hebdomadaire moyenne assurable du prestataire. Le taux réduit restera en vigueur pour le reste de la période de prestations.

Toutefois, une période d'exclusion peut être reportée si le prestataire devient admissible à des prestations de maladie, de maternité ou à des prestations parentales.

Fraude

A l'heure actuelle, les chômeurs qui fournissent sciemment des renseignements erronés concernant leur demande de prestations s'exposent encore à une pénalité correspondant au triple du montant de leur prestation hebdomadaire. Par contre, dans le cas des employeurs qui donnent des faux renseignements, cette pénalité pourra maintenant être fixée à neuf fois le montant des prestations hebdomadaires maximales.

2. Protection offerte par le Régime aux parents d'un employeur

A l'heure actuelle, les personnes embauchées par leur conjoint ou leurs parents ne sont pas considérées comme ayant un lien de dépendance avec ce dernier et sont privées du droit de cotiser au Régime d'assurance-chômage et d'en retirer les avantages.

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé d'étendre aux travailleurs qui ont des liens de parenté avec leur employeur la protection du Régime d'assurance-chômage s'ils ont une relation de dépendance avec ce dernier. S'ils ont le même genre de contrat de travail que d'autres employés qui n'ont pas de liens de parenté avec leur employeur, leur emploi sera assurable et ils paieront des cotisations. Ces travailleurs pourront donc, s'ils se retrouvent en chômage, toucher les prestations auxquelles ils ont droit. On tiendra compte de facteurs tels la rémunération, les conditions, la durée, la nature et l'importance de leur emploi pour en déterminer l'assurabilité.

3. Pénalités

Départs volontaires sans motif valable

A l'heure actuelle, la période de prestations des travailleurs qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable est retardée et réduite au début de une à six semaines, en sus du délai de carence habituel de deux semaines. La pénalité supplémentaire s'établit en moyenne à deux semaines et demie. Le taux des prestations reste le même (60 %) que pour les autres travailleurs.

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé d'infliger des pénalités plus sévères aux travailleurs qui quittent leur emploi sans motif valable, qui sont renvoyés pour inconduite ou qui refusent de prendre un nouvel emploi.

AUTRES MODIFICATIONS AU RÉGIME D'ASSURANCE-CHOMAGE

1. Participation au Régime pour les personnes de 65 ans et plus
2. Protection offerte par le Régime aux parents d'un employeur
3. Pénalités
4. Modifications d'ordre administratif

1. Participation au Régime pour les personnes de 65 ans et plus

A l'heure actuelle, les travailleurs de 65 ans et plus ne cotisent pas au Régime d'assurance-chômage et ne peuvent toucher de prestations s'ils perdent leur emploi. A l'âge de 65 ans, les travailleurs reçoivent une prestation spéciale de retraite équivalant à trois semaines de prestations s'ils ont travaillé pendant au moins 20 semaines au cours de l'année précédente. Le versement des prestations d'assurance-chômage s'arrête automatiquement dès qu'un prestataire atteint l'âge de 65 ans.

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé de modifier cette disposition de la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage pour tenir compte du fait qu'un nombre accru de Canadiens décident de continuer de travailler après 65 ans et pour satisfaire aux dispositions de la Charte en matière d'équité.

De cette façon, les travailleurs de 65 ans et plus verseraient des cotisations au Régime d'assurance-chômage et auraient droit au bénéfice des prestations s'ils venaient à perdre leur emploi, à condition toutefois de remplir les conditions d'admissibilité habituelles. Par contre, la prestation spéciale de retraite ne leur serait plus versée.

Plusieurs types de prestations spéciales pourraient faire l'objet d'une demande au cours d'une même période de prestations, jusqu'à un maximum cumulatif de 30 semaines (par exemple, sept semaines de prestations de maladie, 15 semaines de prestations de maternité et huit semaines de prestations parentales). En outre, les prestataires pourraient toucher des prestations spéciales conjointement avec des prestations ordinaires, mais leur durée totale ne pourrait pas dépasser 30 semaines ou la période maximale d'admissibilité aux prestations ordinaires, selon le nombre de semaines le plus élevé.

DONNÉES DOCUMENTAIRES 2

PRESTATIONS DE MATERNITÉ, PARENTALES ET DE MALADIE (PRESTATIONS SPÉCIALES)

A 1'heure actuelle, seules les mères naturelles peuvent toucher des prestations de maternité d'une durée de 15 semaines. Les prestations d'adoption sont offertes à l'un ou l'autre des parents adoptifs pour une durée de 15 semaines. Les prestataires doivent avoir travaillé au moins 20 semaines au cours de l'année précédente pour être admissibles aux prestations spéciales.

Si une femme présente une demande unique en vue d'obtenir plus d'un type de prestations spéciales (par exemple, maladie et maternité), le nombre total de semaines de prestations ne peut dépasser 15.

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé une révision complète du régime actuel de prestations de maternité, de maladie et de prestations parentales. Les modifications proposées accroîtront sensiblement la souplesse du régime de prestations et la durée de ces dernières, et seront conformes aux exigences de la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés.

Le système suivant comportant plusieurs niveaux de prestations est proposé :

-- 15 semaines de prestations de maternité versées au cours de la période entourant la naissance d'un enfant;

-- 10 semaines de prestations parentales versées aux parents naturels ou adoptifs, soit au père, soit à la mère, ou encore réparties entre les deux selon ce qu'ils jugent approprié;

-- la possibilité de combiner de façon plus simple les prestations ordinaires, de maladie, de maternité et les prestations parentales.

Modifications proposées au barème des prestations d'A.-c.

Nombre de semaines de prestations d'A.-c.

• **Taux de chômage de la région du prestataire**

[illegible]

2. Durée de la période de prestations

- 3 -

A l'heure actuelle, la durée de la période de prestations est fondée sur une structure complexe à trois phases qui tient compte du nombre de semaines de travail accumulées par le prestataire et du taux de chômage régional.

Au cours de la phase initiale, les prestataires reçoivent une semaine de prestations pour chaque semaine de travail accumulée jusqu'à concurrence de 25 semaines. Lorsque le prestataire a épuisé les prestations de la phase I, il peut demander des prestations applicables à la phase de prolongation des prestations fondée sur la durée d'emploi. Il peut ainsi percevoir une semaine de prestations pour chaque période de deux semaines de travail accumulées (en sus des 25 premières semaines) jusqu'à concurrence de 13 semaines.

Une fois ses prestations épuisées, le prestataire a la possibilité de demander des prestations applicables à la phase des prestations de prolongation fondée sur le taux de chômage régional. Il peut ainsi recevoir deux semaines de prestations, jusqu'à concurrence de 32 semaines, pour chaque demi-point de pourcentage lorsque le taux de chômage régional est supérieur à 4%. La durée globale des prestations ne peut dépasser 50 semaines.

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé de simplifier la structure des prestations. La durée de la période de prestations continuerait d'être fondée sur le nombre de semaines de travail et sur le taux de chômage régional, mais la structure actuelle à trois phases serait ramenée à une structure à une seule phase.

En outre, sauf dans les régions où le taux de chômage est le plus élevé, la durée maximale de la période de prestations serait réduite.

- 30 -

Dans le projet de loi, il est proposé de modifier le Régime d'assurance-chômage de façon à lui conserver sa réceptivité aux conditions économiques régionales tout en allongeant les périodes de référence minimales dans la plupart des régions. Les prestataires devront accumuler de 10 à 20 semaines de travail pour devenir admissibles au bénéfice des prestations, selon le taux de chômage régional.

Cependant, pour tenir compte de la situation particulière des travailleurs saisonniers, la disposition relative aux réitérants sera supprimée.

TABLEAU 2 : NORME VARIABLE D'ADMISSIBILITÉ PROPOSÉE

<u>Nombre de semaines</u> <u>d'emploi assurables</u> <u>nécessaire</u>	<u>Taux de chômage régional</u>
20	6,0 % et moins
19	Plus de 6,0 % à 7,0 %
18	Plus de 7,0 % à 8,0 %
17	Plus de 8,0 % à 9,0 %
16	Plus de 9,0 % à 10,0 %
15	Plus de 10,0 % à 11,0 %
14	Plus de 11,0 % à 12,0 %
13	Plus de 12,0 % à 13,0 %
12	Plus de 13,0 % à 14,0 %
11	Plus de 14,0 % à 15,0 %
10	Plus de 15,0 %

DONNÉES DOCUMENTAIRES I

ACCÈS AUX PRESTATIONS D'ASSUPANCE-CHOMAGE

1. Normes d'admissibilité minimales
2. Durée de la période de prestations

1. Normes d'admissibilité minimales

En vertu des normes d'admissibilité minimales **actuelles**, les prestataires doivent accumuler de 10 à 14 semaines de travail pour devenir admissibles aux prestations, selon le taux de chômage régional.

Les demandeurs qui ont touché des prestations d'assurance-chômage au cours de l'année écoulée peuvent maintenant devoir travailler de une à six semaines de plus pour devenir admissibles aux prestations. C'est ce qu'on appelle la disposition relative aux réitérants.

TABLEAU 1 : NORME VARIABLE D'ADMISSIBILITÉ ACTUELLE

Taux de chômage régional		prestations d'assurance-chômage	
		travail ouvrant droit aux	
		Nombre de semaines de	
6,0 % et moins		14	
Plus de 6,0 % à 7,0 %		13	
Plus de 7,0 % à 8,0 %		12	
Plus de 8,0 % à 9,0 %		11	
Plus de 9,0 %		10	

De plus, la nouvelle législation augmentera les pénalités pour les personnes qui abandonnent leur emploi sans raison valable, qui refusent un emploi ou qui sont congédiées pour incompétence. En effet, une période d'attente plus longue leur serait imposée avant qu'elles ne puissent toucher des prestations et leur taux de prestations serait réduit.

Le projet de loi comporte également plusieurs modifications visant à simplifier l'administration du Régime ainsi qu'à en accroître l'équité et la souplesse.

"Le gouvernement de même que le secteur privé ont la responsabilité de faire en sorte que les chômeurs canadiens aient toutes les chances de bénéficier de la formation et du counselling nécessaires pour s'intégrer à la population active du Canada et pour demeurer des membres productifs", a indiqué Mme McDougall.

(Voir les données documentaires ci-jointes)

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"La Loi sur l'assurance-chômage est mise à jour de façon à répondre aux besoins de l'heure, a déclaré Mme McDougall. Le Régime d'assurance-chômage doit jouer un rôle plus actif dans le marché du travail et doit favoriser davantage l'acquisition de compétences chez les travailleurs".

Grâce aux modifications prévues, le gouvernement améliorera considérablement la formation et l'aide qu'il offre aux chômeurs canadiens pour réintégrer le marché du travail. La conception des nouveaux programmes sera soumise à un processus de consultation devant avoir lieu à l'été ou à l'automne. Parmi les autres changements, notons la révision du système actuel de prestations de maternité, de maladie et parentales afin d'en assouplir les modalités et d'allonger la période de prestations.

Les modifications prévues à la Loi ont également pour but de protéger les travailleurs de plus de 65 ans et les personnes qui travaillent pour le compte de leur conjoint en vertu du Régime d'assurance-chômage.

Toutes ces modifications rendent la Loi conforme aux dispositions de la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés. Le projet de loi vient également modifier les exigences concernant les normes d'admissibilité et les prestations tel qu'il a été annoncé dans la politique en avril dernier. Ces modifications reflètent les conditions du marché du travail qui varient considérablement d'un bout à l'autre du pays et vont toucher principalement les régions où le taux de chômage est peu élevé.



Pour publication

Le 1er juin 1989

89-08

**Modifications à la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage
présentées à la Chambre des communes**

Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de
l'Immigration, a présentée aujourd'hui les modifications
à la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage, lesquelles visent à
améliorer la capacité du Régime d'aider les travailleurs
à s'adapter aux changements.

Le projet de loi, qui s'inscrit dans la
Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'oeuvre annoncée
récemment, "Le nouveau mode d'emploi", renforce la
capacité du Régime d'assurance-chômage à continuer de
faire fonction de filet de sécurité en mettant l'accent
sur ceux qui en ont besoin. Il prévoit également
davantage de formation professionnelle et d'autres
mesures destinées à aider les prestataires à s'adapter
avec succès aux conditions changeantes du marché du
travail. Les modifications rendent également le Régime
conforme à la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés.

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

Gouvernement
Publications

For release

Date

June 7, 1989
89-11

**Consultations on Labour Force
Development Strategy Launched**



OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today met with leaders of 13 national organizations to officially launch consultations on the government's new labour adjustment and training initiatives.

During the one-day session held in Ottawa, representatives of business, labour, training organizations and other interested groups discussed a process for consultation and agreed to participate in further discussions to design future labour market programs.

With the agreement of participants, the Canadian Labour Market Productivity Centre (CLMPC) will convene five symposia in the fall to focus on Entry Level Training (Apprenticeship, New Entry Programs, Co-operative Education), Programs for UI Recipients, Human Resource Planning, Programs for Social Assistance Recipients and Programs for Older Workers.

.../2

During the summer months, six representative task forces will meet to discuss these issues and prepare discussion papers. Their findings will be presented to the fall symposia.

"When I announced the Labour Force Development Strategy in April, I emphasized the essential role of the private sector in designing relevant labour market programs," said McDougall. "This process which we have begun today, represents just the first step in what will be an on-going dialogue on employment and training programs."

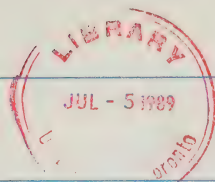
The consultations will culminate in a final report, expected in November.

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For release

June 16, 1989
89-12

Date

OTTAWA -- The following statement was released today by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration.

"Events in China have moved very swiftly over the last two weeks, but I would like to confirm today what the Government of Canada is doing to assist those Chinese citizens who are now in Canada, as well as to assist Chinese citizens in China who have a connection with this country.

"First of all, I want to reassure all those Chinese citizens who are in Canada as visitors that they need have no fear that they will be asked to leave Canada as long as the situation in China remains threatening for them. This applies to all those who are here as visitors, whether they are students, temporary workers, tourists or private visitors. I have also directed that no removals to China should take place for a 60-day period, or until the situation in China becomes clearer.

"There has been some public discussion of the options in place for Chinese citizens here as visitors

.../2

who do not wish to return to China. I know that some, and this applies particularly to students, may be apprehensive about requesting refugee status. It is important for them to be aware that there are other options open to them. Chinese visitors wishing to remain in Canada temporarily or permanently may:

- retain their status as students, visitors or temporary workers. If their status is expiring, extensions will be granted for an appropriate period, depending on individual circumstance.
- apply for permanent residence in Canada under existing humanitarian and compassionate guidelines.
- apply for an immigrant visa under normal selection criteria at a Canadian Embassy or Consulate abroad. It is not necessary to return to China to make such an application.
- make a refugee claim.

"Students who have had their financial assistance cut off can also obtain an employment authorization under provisions in immigration legislation which enable foreign students to obtain work permits if they become temporarily destitute. They are also eligible for assistance through the Canada Assistance Plan.

"Regional Offices of the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission were instructed this week that applications from Chinese citizens under the procedures outlined above were to be dealt with sympathetically. Any of the Chinese students, or other Chinese visitors in Canada, who are concerned about their future, may obtain more information on the options available to them through their local Canada Immigration Centre.

"I know that Canadians who have close relatives in China are concerned for their well-being, given the recent events there. For this reason instructions have also been given to the Canadian Embassy in Beijing for accelerated processing of applications from members of the Family Class, who are sponsored by their close relatives in Canada. Moreover, applications to come to Canada submitted by the dependants of Chinese students here will be facilitated.

"As well, arrangements have been put in place for the expeditious handling of applications from students still in China, but who have been accepted by a Canadian university, and who otherwise meet basic visa requirements. Naturally, normal Chinese exit requirements continue in place, and this will condition our ability to assist any Chinese citizen in coming to this country.

"Finally, I would like to say once more that Chinese citizens in Canada temporarily are not under the obligation to make an immediate and possibly irrevocable choice regarding their future. Extensions

- 4 -

of their present status are available for any reasonable period to allow them to consider their options, and Canada Immigration Centres will be pleased provide more information."

- 30 -

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For release

Date

July 13, 1989
89-13

Employment Equity Sanctions Removed

Sanctions under the Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity have been removed from the firm of Freed & Freed International of Winnipeg. The announcement was made today by Monique Vezina, Minister of State for Employment and Immigration, and Paul Dick, Minister of Supply and Services.

"Freed & Freed have developed an acceptable Employment Equity work plan that meets with our approval and we are pleased that they are again eligible to bid on federal contracts," said Madame Vezina.

The Federal Contractors Program sets out guidelines for programs to correct employment disadvantages experienced by women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minority groups. These conditions are set out according to criteria developed by Employment and Immigration Canada.



The Compliance Reviews conducted by Employment and Immigration Canada in 1987/88, found the company had not established an employment equity plan and was therefore in non-compliance. Freed & Freed appealed the findings, and in November 1988 the government appointed an independent assessor, Mr. David Bowman, Q.C., to hear the appeal. He upheld the ruling of non-compliance.

"We are pleased that the program encourages federal contractors to review their hiring practices, and to take corrective action when it is needed," Mr. Dick said. Employment and Immigration staff will continue to help companies work in the development of employment equity plans by offering consultation and assistance.

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EAI
MI
- R21Minister of Employment
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et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

September 18, 1989
89-17**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Society of the Plastics Industry of Canada (SPI) and Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC) have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding which provides for increased cooperation in strategic human resource planning.

The announcement was made by Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall who said the agreement was "an important extension of the working relationship between the government and the plastics industry."

Over the past seven years, SPI and EIC have worked closely together on human resource issues under a general Memorandum of Understanding. SPI requested a new, more strategically-oriented agreement to deal effectively with the challenges posed by expansion within the industry and international competition.



With an annual growth rate of 8 per cent, plastics is the fastest growing manufacturing sector in Canada. The new Memorandum of Understanding specifically confirms the mutual objectives of SPI and EIC to enhance domestic and international competitiveness through human resource planning.

"In the context of competing internationally, we have identified education and training as a priority," said Ron Evason, President of the Society of the Plastics Industry of Canada. "We believe that the new agreement will address this priority and focus the assistance and expertise available through EIC."

Under the agreement, EIC will help to link the industry's human resource needs with the relevant services of other government departments or agencies; and inform the industry of emerging skill demand and supply patterns. In particular, EIC will explore the industry's need for support for SPI's Canadian Plastics Training Centre to be built in Toronto, possibly with satellite centres to follow elsewhere in Canada.

Citing the plastics industry as one of the models for the government's recently announced Labour Force Development Strategy, Mrs. McDougall noted that, "one of the main objectives of this Strategy is to encourage greater employer commitment to staff training and retraining. Other sectors in Canada would do well

to study closely the aggressive and highly successful industry-driven approach which continues to characterize SPI's human resource initiatives."

These initiatives, encompassed in the new Memorandum of Understanding, are based on the assumption that strategic human resource planning and development is the responsibility of individual companies. SPI will assist member companies to understand their responsibility for active human resource planning and training; help establish defined industry occupation standards; and work to foster employment stability, equity and growth within the plastics industry.

Mrs. McDougall said that it is an objective of the Labour Force Development Strategy to initiate similar agreements with other Canadian industries and associations.

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For release

Date **October 18, 1989**
89-19
Immigration Levels, 1990

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced to Parliament plans for "165,000 to 175,000 immigrants to Canada in 1990 - an increase of 15,000 over the 1989 planning range." She also announced a forthcoming series of consultations to establish immigration levels for the period 1991-1995.

"We are convinced that immigrants make a valuable contribution to Canada. We foresee increased immigration by close family members. Canada will continue to admit significant numbers of skilled immigrants who will make a real contribution to Canada's economy. Canada will also admit significant numbers of refugees in fulfillment of our humanitarian traditions.

"With immigration restored to about the average levels of the past forty years", said the Minister, "it is time to examine the economic and social impacts on Canada and prepare a plan for the period 1991-1995". To develop this plan, the Minister announced a new round of enhanced consultations on immigration levels.



"In expanding our consultations, we will draw on a wider range of views in formulating immigration policy for the medium term. From November 1989 to March 1990, we will be seeking the views of representatives from municipalities, and the business, labour, health, social service and education sectors".

Employment and Immigration Canada also conducts its consultations with provincial and territorial governments, academics, ethnic and non-governmental organizations with an interest in immigration and refugee issues. "I also see these consultations as providing an opportunity to dispel myths about the effects of immigration", said the Minister. "We expect opinion leaders and expert commentators on the economic, social and demographic aspects of immigration to present new data and valuable information in our consultation process.

"Our immigration levels reflect a constantly evolving equation of many elements - family reunification, protection of genuine refugees, as well as economic, and labour market needs. I am confident that this exchange of views and information will help to develop a broad consensus about immigration to Canada for the 1991-1995 period," said Mrs. McDougall.

The accompanying backgrounder details the 1990 immigration levels and the annual refugee plan.

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BACKGROUNDER

Annual Report to Parliament on Future Immigration Levels

Each year, the Minister of Employment and Immigration tables the Annual Report to Parliament on Future Immigration Levels, as required by the Immigration Act. The 1990 levels were determined after consultations with provincial and territorial governments and with a range of non-governmental organizations. They also reflect the broad consensus which has emerged during consultations with the private and voluntary sectors during the past several years of continued growth in immigration levels.

Broad consultations with other governments, federal and provincial agencies, as well as private and voluntary organizations, will begin in November 1989 and go until March 1990. These consultations will be carried out to establish immigration levels for 1991 to 1995.

A) PLANNED IMMIGRATION

Component	1989 (announced)	1990
Family Class	57,000	61,000
Government-assisted Refugees and members of Designated Classes (selected abroad)	13,000	13,000
Privately sponsored Refugees and members of Designated Classes (selected abroad)	10,000	13,000
Refugees landed in Canada	7,000 ¹	7,000 ¹
Humanitarian landings under special measures	3,000 - 6,000	3,000 - 6,000
Selected Workers:		
- principal applicants	21,000 - 24,000	21,000 - 24,000
- spouses and other accompanying dependants	24,000 - 28,000	29,000 - 33,000
Business immigrants:		
- principal applicants	4,000	4,000
- spouses and other accompanying dependants	9,000	11,000
Retirees	2,000	3,000
TOTAL	150,000-160,000	165,000-175,000²

¹ Preliminary estimate based on expected landings under the refugee determination system.

² Does not include those people accepted through the refugee backlog clearance process.

B) GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED REFUGEE ALLOCATIONS FOR 1990

Government-assisted refugee allocations by world area,
1989 and 1990

<u>AREA</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>
Eastern Europe	3,400	3,500
Southeast Asia	3,000	3,500
Latin America	3,400	3,000
Africa	1,000	1,000
The Middle East and West Asia	1,800	1,700
Funded management reserve and other world areas	400	300
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	13,000	13,000

Statement from

THE HONOURABLE BARBARA MCDOUGALL

MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

AND

MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

on

Immigration Levels for 1990

and a

Consultation Strategy

for Immigration Levels

1991-1995

Ottawa

October 18, 1989

Check against delivery

Mr. Speaker, the decision to increase planned immigration to Canada in 1990 to 165,000 to 175,000 immigrants - an increase of 15,000 over the previous year's planning range - is a decision in keeping with the blueprint outlined in the Speech from the Throne. The 1990 level was determined after consultations with provincial and territorial governments as well as with non-governmental organizations, and represents a consensus which has emerged during our consultation process of the past several years.

The immigration levels this government has established, Mr. Speaker, reflect a constantly evolving balance among many elements - family reunification, protection of genuine refugees, as well as labour market needs. All of these factors must be carefully weighed before we determine what level is best for Canada and the people who settle here.

We are now about to begin a series of consultations with government and service organizations to establish a longer-term plan for immigration levels and the balance among all of these categories.

Family reunification remains the cornerstone of the current Immigration Program and in 1990 Canada plans to admit 61,000 immigrants with close relatives in Canada - spouses, unmarried dependents and older parents. This is 4,000 more than the 1989 target and reflects the expected demand of sponsorships for relatives of people now living in Canada.

Also in 1990, approximately 13,000 refugees will be admitted from abroad under government sponsorship. Within this global target, the number accepted from Southeast Asia puts us on track to meeting the commitment that I announced in Geneva this summer to resettle 16,000 Southeast Asian refugees by 1992.

In 1990, we expect the private sector will sponsor the admission of some 13,000 refugees as a continued expression of their commitment.

In all, Canada will resettle some 26,000 refugees during 1990. Another 7,000 people are expected to be landed as refugees during 1990 after having been examined under our new Refugee Determination System. Finally, 3,000 to 6,000 people with family ties to Canada will be admitted under special humanitarian measures.

These increased immigration figures reflect a broad consensus that emerged through consultations among national non-governmental organizations and regional, local and community groups over the past few years.

As all Members of this House are aware, our immigration levels have increased every year since this government came into office. Immigration is currently around the postwar annual average. But, Mr. Speaker, Canada needs to plan its immigration levels for more than a single year at a time, since levels decisions have an impact on many federal and provincial government departments as well as on agencies that help immigrants settle in Canada.

It is now time to re-evaluate the situation and prepare a comprehensive plan for the 1991-1995 period. In preparing this plan, we will ask our consultative partners to take into consideration demographic movements, Canada's current and projected population size, where people choose to live, and related social and economic trends.

That is the motivation behind the extensive consultations that I am launching in November 1989 to continue until March 1990. In expanding our consultations, we will draw on a wider range of views in formulating immigration policy for the medium term.

I intend to be personally involved in some of these consultative sessions in order to emphasize the importance I attach to this exercise.

We will ask experts on economic, social and demographic trends in immigration to contribute up-to-date information and data to our consultations. We will invite representatives from all levels of government, as well as from business, labour, health, social services and education to make their views known in a series of multi-disciplinary dialogues.

One of the objectives of these consultations is to dispel myths about the effects immigration have on Canada and to develop a broader dialogue on immigration. I am confident that this dialogue will sustain our conviction that immigrants make a valuable contribution to Canada, enriching our society, our economy and our tradition of tolerance that is the envy of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that this exchange of views and information will assist the government in formulating the specific number and mix of immigrants Canada should plan to admit during the 1991-1995 period, in accordance with the government's general intention to increase immigration levels. I am looking forward to a constructive dialogue on the impacts of immigration, an important component of the economic and social development of our nation.

de notre pays.

est important sur l'essor économique et le développement social
constructif sur les répercussions de l'immigration qui ont un
l'attends avec impatience le moment d'ouvrir un dialogue
générale du gouvernement de relever les niveaux d'immigration.
admettre pour les années 1991 à 1995, compte tenu de l'intention
nombre et les catégories d'immigrants que le Canada devrait
vues et de renseignements aidera le gouvernement à déterminer le
Monsieur le Président, je suis sûr que cet échange de
l'envie de tous.

permettent de maintenir notre tradition de tolérance, qui fait
enrichissent notre société et notre économie et qu'ils nous

Il est temps de réévaluer la situation et de préparer un plan complet et détaillé pour les années 1991 à 1995. Pour préparer ce plan, il faudra, pendant les consultations, tenir compte des profils démographiques, de la population actuelle et future du Canada, de sa répartition géographique ainsi que des tendances économiques et sociales pertinentes.

C'est pourquoi je lance d'importantes consultations devant débuter en novembre 1989 et se poursuivre jusqu'en mars 1990. Nous élargirons notre champ de consultation et obtiendrons ainsi une plus grande diversité d'opinions avant de formuler notre politique à moyen terme en matière d'immigration.

Je compte participer personnellement à certaines de ces séances de consultation pour bien démontrer l'importance que j'y attache.

Nous consulterons des experts pour avoir une information et des données à jour sur les tendances économiques, sociales et démographiques de l'immigration. Nous inviterons des représentants de tous les ordres de gouvernement, de même que du monde des affaires, des associations de travailleurs, des services sociaux et de santé ainsi que du monde de l'enseignement à faire connaître leurs vues dans une série de rencontres multidisciplinaires.

Un des objectifs de ces consultations est de dissiper les mythes au sujet des répercussions de l'immigration sur le Canada et de faire naître un consensus à ce chapitre. Je suis persuadée que ce dialogue nous convaincra encore plus que les immigrants apportent une contribution valable au Canada, qu'ils

Toujours en 1990, le gouvernement compte prendre en charge 13 000 autres réfugiés. Cet objectif global est une étape importante en vue de respecter l'engagement fait à Genève cet été d'accueillir 16 000 réfugiés des pays de l'Asie du Sud-Est d'ici 1992.

En 1990, nous comptons sur le secteur privé pour parrainer l'admission de quelque 13 000 réfugiés et ainsi renforcer son engagement.

Le Canada rétablira un total de 26 000 réfugiés au cours de 1990. Nous prévoyons également admettre 7 000 personnes en qualité de réfugiés après que leur revendication aura été examinée suivant le nouveau processus de détermination du statut de réfugié. Enfin, entre 3 000 et 6 000 personnes seront accueillies en vertu de mesures humanitaires spéciales.

Ce relèvement des niveaux d'immigration traduit le consensus qui s'est dégagé des consultations menées, au cours des dernières années, auprès d'organismes non gouvernementaux, nationaux, de groupes régionaux, locaux et communautaires.

Comme tous les membres de cette Chambre le savent, les niveaux d'immigration ont été relevés chaque année depuis que le présent gouvernement a pris le pouvoir. Les niveaux actuels atteignent la moyenne annuelle de l'après-guerre. Toutefois, Monsieur le Président, le Canada doit planifier ses niveaux d'immigration pour plus d'une année à la fois, étant donné que les décisions prises à ce chapitre ont des répercussions sur beaucoup de ministères fédéraux et provinciaux de même que sur des organismes qui aident les immigrants à s'établir au Canada.

Monsieur le Président, la décision d'admettre au Canada, en 1990, de 165 000 à 175 000 immigrants, soit 15 000 de plus que la fourchette de planification de l'année précédente, est conforme à l'annonce faite dans le discours du trône. Nous avons fixé les niveaux de 1990 après consultation des gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux ainsi que des organismes non gouvernementaux; il représente le consensus auquel nous en sommes arrivés après les consultations des dernières années.

Les niveaux d'immigration que le présent gouvernement a établis, Monsieur le Président, sont le résultat de l'évolution constante des rapports entre bon nombre d'éléments — réunion des familles, protection des réfugiés authentiques ainsi que besoins du marché du travail. Tous ces éléments doivent être soigneusement pondérés avant de déterminer quels niveaux sont les meilleurs pour le Canada et pour les personnes qui s'établissent ici.

Nous sommes sur le point d'entreprendre une série de consultations auprès des pouvoirs publics et des organismes de prestation de services afin de planifier à plus long terme les niveaux d'immigration et de les répartir entre les catégories d'immigrants.

La réunion des familles demeure la pierre angulaire du programme actuel d'immigration, et, en 1990, le Canada prévoit admettre 61 000 immigrants ayant de proches parents au Canada, soit un conjoint, des dépendants célibataires ou des parents âgés. Il s'agit d'une augmentation de 4 000 par rapport à l'objectif de 1989 et ce chiffre tient compte de la demande prévue de parrainages en faveur de parents de personnes qui vivent au Canada en ce moment.

Allocution prononcée par

M^{me} BARBARA MCDONUGALD

MINISTRE DE L'EMPLOI ET DE L'IMMIGRATION

ET

MINISTRE RESPONSABLE DE LA CONDITION FÉMININE

sur

les niveaux d'immigration pour 1990
et une
stratégie de consultation sur
les niveaux d'immigration
pour les années 1991 à 1995

Ottawa

le 18 octobre 1989

Priorité au discours prononcé

B)

RÉPARTITION DU NOMBRE DE RÉFUGIÉS PARRAINÉS PAR LE GOUVERNEMENT
EN 1990

Répartition des réfugiés parrainés par le gouvernement selon la région du monde en 1989 et 1990

RÉGION	1989	1990
Europe de l'Est	3 400	3 500
Asie du Sud-Est	3 000	3 500
Amérique latine	3 400	3 000
Afrique	1 000	1 000
Moyen-Orient et Asie occidentale	1 800	1 700
Réserve financée de gestion et autres régions du monde	400	300
TOTAL	13 000	13 000

A) NIVEAUX D'IMMIGRATION PRÉVUS

Composante	1989	1990
Catégorie de la famille	57 000	61 000
Réfugiés pris en charge par le gouvernement et membres des catégories désignées (sélectionnées à l'étranger)	13 000	13 000
Réfugiés parrainés par des groupes privés et membres des catégories désignées (sélectionnées à l'étranger)	10 000	13 000
Réfugiés ayant obtenu, au Canada, le droit d'établissement	7 000 ¹	7 000 ¹
Personnes admises en vertu de mesures spéciales à caractère humanitaire	3 000- 6 000	3 000- 6 000
Travailleurs sélectionnés : requérants principaux - conjoints et autres personnes à charge les accompagnant	21 000-24 000	21 000-24 000
Gens d'affaires immigrants : requérants principaux - conjoints et autres personnes à charge les accompagnant	24 000-28 000	29 000-33 000
Retraités	2 000	3 000
TOTAL	150 000-160 000	165 000-175 000²

1 Estimation préliminaire fondée sur le nombre prévu de personnes qui obtiendront le droit d'établissement suivant le processus de détermination du statut de réfugié.

2 Ne comprend pas les personnes acceptées dans le cadre de l'élimination de l'arrière des revendications du statut de réfugié.

DONNÉES DOCUMENTAIRES

Rapport annuel sur les futurs niveaux d'immigration déposé au Parlement

Aux termes de la loi sur l'immigration, le ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration doit déposer chaque année au Parlement un rapport annuel sur les futurs niveaux d'immigration. Les niveaux pour 1990 ont été déterminés après consultation des gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux ainsi que de divers organismes non gouvernementaux. Ces niveaux sont également conformes au consensus qui s'est dégagé des consultations menées auprès du secteur privé et des organismes bénévoles au cours des dernières années qui ont été des années de croissance continue dans le cas des niveaux d'immigration.

D'importantes consultations auront lieu à partir de novembre 1989 jusqu'en mars 1990 auprès d'autres ordres de gouvernement, d'organismes fédéraux et provinciaux ainsi que d'organismes du secteur privé et d'organismes bénévoles. Ces consultations seront menées en vue d'établir les niveaux d'immigration pour 1991 à 1995.

«Les niveaux d'immigration sont le résultat d'une équation aux variables nombreuses, toujours changeantes : réunion des familles, protection des réfugiés authentiques aussi bien que besoins économiques et besoins du marché du travail. Je suis sûr que cet échange de vues et de renseignements nous aidera à parvenir à un vaste consensus sur l'immigration au Canada pour les années 1991 à 1995», a ajouté M^{me} McDougall.

Les données documentaires ci-jointes contiennent des renseignements sur les niveaux d'immigration pour 1990 ainsi que sur notre plan annuel en matière de réfugiés.

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Renseignements :

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Cabinet de la Ministre
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Laura Chapman
Politique relative à la
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Linda Larocque
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«L'immigration étant à peu près revenue au niveau moyen des quarante dernières années, il est temps d'examiner les répercussions économiques et sociales sur le Canada ainsi que de préparer un plan pour les années 1991 à 1995», a déclaré M^{me} McDougall. A cette fin, la Ministre a annoncé de nouvelles consultations sur les niveaux d'immigration.

«En élargissant notre champ de consultation, nous pourrions étudier l'avis d'un plus grand nombre d'intervenants en vue de déterminer une politique d'immigration à moyen terme. De novembre 1989 à mars 1990, nous consulterons des représentants des administrations municipales, des entreprises, des associations de travailleurs, des services de santé et des services sociaux ainsi que de l'enseignement.»

Emploi et Immigration Canada poursuit également ses consultations annuelles avec les gouvernements provinciaux et territoriaux, les organisations ethniques, les universitaires et les organismes non gouvernementaux qui s'intéressent aux questions relatives à l'immigration et aux réfugiés. Ces consultations seront également une occasion de détruire les mythes au sujet des répercussions de l'immigration. Nous comptons sur les leaders d'opinion et les experts en ce qui concerne les aspects économique, social et démographique de l'immigration pour nous présenter des données nouvelles et utiles», a précisé la Ministre.



Pour publication

Le 18 octobre 1989
89-19

Niveaux d'immigration pour 1990

M^{me} Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui au Parlement l'intention du gouvernement «d'admettre 165 000 à 175 000 immigrants au Canada en 1990, soit 15 000 de plus que la fourchette prévue pour 1989». Elle a également annoncé que des consultations allaient être entreprises en vue d'établir les niveaux d'immigration pour la période de 1991 à 1995.

«Nous sommes convaincus que les immigrants sont un atout pour le Canada. Nous prévoyons accueillir davantage d'immigrants parrainés par de proches parents. Le Canada continuera d'admettre un nombre important d'immigrants possédant des compétences spécialisées, qui contribueront de façon positive à l'économie du Canada. Nous admettrons également un nombre important de réfugiés, conformément à nos traditions humanitaires.»

CAI
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-R21Minister of Employment
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et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

October 12, 1989
89-20**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Employers' Employment Equity Reports Now Available**

Monique Vézina, Minister of State for Employment and Immigration Canada, and Minister of State for Seniors announced today that the Employment Equity employers' reports are now available to the public. This is the second year employers have reported under the Employment Equity Act. Canadians will be able to assess the progress of individual employers covered by the Employment Equity Act in implementing programs to improve the status of the four groups designated under the Act: women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minority groups.

These reports provide an in-depth profile of the representation of the four designated groups within federally-regulated companies.



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A brochure, listing the libraries at which the reports may be reviewed, is available from Canada Employment Centres across the country. Individual reports may also be purchased from Supply and Services Canada.

"We are very pleased with the level of co-operation we received from the employers this year," Mme Vézina said. "Nearly all of the employers submitted their reports on time."

"It is important to keep in mind," continued the Minister of State, "that these reports are prepared by the employers themselves -- we are releasing them exactly as they were written."

"As required by the Employment Equity Act, I will be tabling a report in Parliament on the second year's progress before the end of the year", said Mme Vézina.

For information: Marnie Clarke
(613) 952-9140)

BACKGROUNDER

The Employment Equity Act was proclaimed in Parliament in August 1986. The legislation requires all federally regulated employers with 100 or more employees to implement employment equity plans and programs and to report annually on their results. Information and training on the Act and reporting requirements are provided to members of designated groups, the business, labour and academic communities.

The legislation affects almost 400 employers, primarily in the industrial sectors of banking, transportation and communication. This year, 374 employers submitted reports for the calendar year 1988, on over 600,000 Canadian employees.

The purpose of the legislation is to achieve a representative work force, so that no person is denied employment opportunities or benefits for reasons unrelated to ability, and to correct the conditions of disadvantage in employment opportunities experienced by women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and people who are members of visible minorities.

The Employment Equity Act obligates employers to:

- ° Identify, then eliminate, any unfair barriers in employment practices and policies.
- ° Take reasonable measures to ensure that no one is unfairly treated in the course of applying and competing for employment opportunities; and
- ° Make a special effort to ensure members of the designated groups have access to developmental and employment opportunities.

The second reports filed by employers were due on June 1, 1989. These reports, as submitted, are now being released for public scrutiny.

As required by the Employment Equity Act, a consolidation and analysis of the data contained in employers' reports will be tabled in Parliament by the Minister of Employment and Immigration, in late November this year.

Every three years, beginning in 1991, a Parliamentary Committee will review the effectiveness of the legislation.

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et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

89\22



Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall and Minister of State for Employment and Immigration Monique Vézina today announced special measures that will generate \$3,044,000 in Job Development funding to provide fishing industry workers in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec with enhanced training and employment opportunities.

"These emergency response measures serve the vital role of helping people adversely affected by circumstances beyond their control," Mrs. McDougall said. "This is but one course the government will be taking to address the problems of Eastern Canada's fishing industry."

It is anticipated that these expenditures will assist more than 4,000 people, of whom approximately 3,400 are from Newfoundland.

As a member of the Special Committee of Ministers on the Northern Cod Fishery, the Minister said she is committed to working with the provincial governments and the fishing industry to find long-term, positive solutions.

The emergency response measures will finance the creation of employment projects that will give bona fide fishing industry workers additional weeks of work.

The funding breakdown includes: \$2 million for Newfoundland, \$644,000 for Quebec and \$400,000 for Nova Scotia. Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick already have adequate funding available.

The Minister noted that there are specific criteria to determine who qualifies for the employment projects. These criteria are intended to provide assistance to bonafide fishing industry workers. Individuals unable to receive these special benefits but with proven long-term attachment to the fishing industry, will be able to request a review of their cases.

For information:

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Director, Programs, Newfoundland Region
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Joe Power
Director, Programs, P.E.I. Region
(902) 566-7719

Harry Vaughan
Director, Operations, Nova Scotia Region
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Ronald Bemrose
Director, Programs, New Brunswick Region
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Gaston Plourde
Director General, Programs, Quebec Region
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Pierre Leclerc
Director, Operations, National Headquarters
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Minister's Office
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Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

November 7, 1989

Date

89-23

NEW ECONOMIC BOUNDARIES

OTTAWA -- Monique Vézina, Minister of State for Employment and Immigration, today announced changes to economic regions.

"The change will allow for a fairer determination of benefits paid to claimants and enhance the Unemployment Insurance program's ability to be more sensitive to regional disparities in Canadian labour markets", Madame Vézina said.

The 62 new economic regions, replacing the present 48, are a result of a Canada Employment and Immigration Commission review started in 1988.

An individual's entitlement to UI benefits is directly tied to the economic region in which that person lives. For example, the number of weeks of work a person needs to qualify for UI benefits and the number of weeks that a person can collect benefits both depend on the unemployment rate in the region where he lives.



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"Our study indicated that the current 48 regions no longer accurately reflected the current social-economic situation," Madame Vézina added.

The Honourable Monique Vézina had announced to Parliament a comprehensive review of the UI economic regions in August 1988.

The key feature of the new UI economic regions is the identification of distinct labour markets. The identification of the new UI regions is based upon the separation of metropolitan areas from rural areas. Because rural areas will now be separated from metropolitan areas, their rate of unemployment will no longer be masked by the economic activity of neighbouring metropolitan centres.

The UI program has become more sensitive to regional disparities since 1971. In 1977, the introduction of the variable entrance requirement and regionally extended benefits made the Program more responsive to regional unemployment rates, with regional boundaries becoming more important in determining a person's entitlement to UI benefits.

In 1978, the number of regions was increased to 48, an improvement over the previous 16 regions.

The new boundaries for the economic regions, will be effective January 1st 1990, so as to complement the UI amendments proposed in Bill C-21 (presently in third reading in the House of Commons).

For the new UI strategy to perform as desired, it was imperative to define economic regions which correctly measure regional variations in terms of employment opportunities.

(See attached backgrounders)

For information:

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(Minister's Office)

Gabrielle Lavoie - (819) 953-5117
Ronald Woltman - (819) 953-5117
(Public Affairs)



For release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 8, 1989
89-24



Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today responded favourably to the report of the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration, entitled Immigration of Lebanese Citizens to Canada.

"I want to thank the Standing Committee for their report" said Mrs. McDougall. The committee's efforts echo the concern of the government, and of all Canadians, for the innocent victims of a war-ravaged nation."

Four recommendations accepted by the government focus on service improvements at the temporary Canadian immigration office in Nicosia, Cyprus. The office was set up to handle the applications of Lebanese who had fled to that country. The fifth recommendation implores the Canadian government to urge the United Nations to seek a resolution to the conflict in Lebanon. All five recommendations have been acted upon.

The two recommendations not accepted called for the creation of a designated class to ease the entry into Canada of Lebanese immigrants, and the granting of permission of church and other groups to sponsor these immigrants.

"Such measures are not necessary. Our long-standing efforts on behalf of the Lebanese have already helped more than 34,000 citizens of that country immigrate here since 1976," said Mrs. McDougall. "We have achieved these impressive results through a broad humanitarian response to those Lebanese affected by the strife and who have relatives in Canada. We will continue in this means to offer assistance to Lebanese."

(See backgrounder for details)

For information:

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Minister's Office
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Program Delivery (819)
953-953-8379

Gerry Maffre
Public Affairs
(819) 994-6489

BACKGROUNDER

A series of hearings by the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration has resulted in seven recommendations to improve the government's efforts to assist Lebanese people wishing to come to Canada.

The government has accepted and implemented five of these recommendations, four of which focused on improvements to service at the temporary Canadian immigration office in Nicosia, Cyprus. These involve:

Committee recommendation

Providing the office with two additional visa officers.

Government response

The government has assigned two additional visa officers to the post, along with an administrative officer and support staff.

Committee recommendation

Making permanent staff arrangements at the office.

Government response

The Nicosia bureau will remain open until the situation in Lebanon stabilizes and all Lebanese can apply in safety to the embassy in Damascus, Syria, which is the closest Canadian diplomatic post to Lebanon (the embassy in Beirut was closed down in 1985).

Committee recommendation

Centralizing all aspects of the immigration process, including medical and security checks, for cases initiated in Cyprus.

Government response

Additional qualified local medical personnel have been appointed as designated medical practitioners to conduct the required medical examinations. Also, security screening for potential Lebanese immigrants will be carried out from Nicosia. In addition, virtually all other application processing procedures have been centralized in Nicosia.

Committee recommendation

Streamlining procedures so that immigrant visas are issued within three months.

Government response

Procedures have been streamlined to allow the applications of Lebanese people with family in Canada to be processed within three months. This is one of the fastest processing times of any post abroad.

Committee recommendation

The Committee asked that the Canadian government put pressure on the United Nations Security Council to seek a resolution to the conflict in Lebanon.

Government response

Canada has been active in this area since March 1989. It has participated in several Security Council meetings and has supported several statements by the Council president calling for a ceasefire and for mediation in the dispute by the Arab League.

Canada will continue to work with the U.N. Secretary-General and the Security Council to find a solution to the conflict and end hostilities.

The two recommendations not accepted by the government called for the creation of a designated class for displaced Lebanese people and granting of permission to church and other groups to sponsor them.

These recommendations were rejected because Canada's success in welcoming Lebanese immigrants to Canada since the civil war broke out in 1975 has rendered them unnecessary.

The Lebanese Special Measures Program, which is still in effect, has enabled 34,000 Lebanese to immigrate to Canada under relaxed criteria. Canada, which introduced the program in 1976, was the only country to implement special measures to help victims of the hostilities.

Since the current crisis began, more than 4,000 immigrant visas have been issued to Lebanese people by visa officials in Nicosia and in Damascus, Syria.

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For release

Date November 14, 1989
89-25



1990 Unemployment Insurance maximum insurable earnings

OTTAWA -- The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission today announced the Unemployment Insurance (UI) maximum insurable earnings figure for 1990.

In accordance with statutory requirements, the maximum weekly insurable earnings will be \$640 on January 1, 1990, up from \$605 in 1989. This is equivalent to a 5.8 per cent increase. As a result, the maximum weekly UI benefit (60% of maximum insurable earnings) will increase to \$384 from \$363 in 1989.

Employees must earn a minimum amount to be insured under the UI program. Measured in dollars, the minimum is equal to 20 per cent of the maximum weekly insurable earnings. This will be \$128 a week in 1990 up from \$121 a week in 1989. (Workers may also meet this requirement by working a minimum of 15 hours a week for the same employer.)

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Annual increases in the maximum insurable earnings are determined by a formula set out in the UI Act and reflect the average annual increase in earnings over the last 8 years (see backgrounder #1).

UI claimants whose annual net income (including UI benefits) exceeds 1.5 times the maximum yearly insurable earnings must repay 30 per cent of those UI benefits that make up the excess. For the 1990 tax year, \$49,920 will be the limit above which the repayment formula applies. In 1989, the limit is \$47,190.

Bill C-21 proposes that, in 1990, employees will pay \$2.25 per \$100 of insurable earnings. Employers will pay \$3.15 per \$100 of such employee earnings (1.4 times the employee rate).

For an explanation of the relevant portion of Bill C-21, please refer to backgrounder #2. Backgrounder #3 illustrates the combined impact of premium rate and maximum insurable earnings for the period 1986 to 1990.

-30-

For further information: Gabrielle Lavoie
Charles Larocque
(Public Affairs)
(819) 953-5117

Backgrounder #1

How 1990 maximum insurable earnings are set

Maximum weekly insurable earnings are used to determine the maximum weekly contributions and maximum weekly benefit. It is the maximum level of income that can be insured each week for UI purposes.

The 1990 figure is the result of two separate calculations.

- 1) First, the earnings index must be calculated. This is the ratio of an eight-year moving average of employees' annual average earnings (from 1981 to 1988) to an eight-year base average (from 1966 to 1973). *
- 2) The next calculation is to multiply the maximum insurable earnings for 1975 and the earnings index for 1990. This result is rounded to the nearest multiple of \$5. This is the maximum weekly insurable earnings figure used by the Commission.

Minimum weekly insurable earnings are 20 per cent of maximum insurable earnings.

The increase in the maximum figure reflects an average increase in wages and salaries for Canadian workers over the most recent eight-year period. This increase maintains consistent protection under the program from year to year by keeping nearly constant the percentage (approximately 60-70 per cent) of Canadian workers whose wages are fully insured. At the same time, those workers who earn consistently above the maximum have approximately the same portion of their wages insured.

* Employees' annual average earnings are calculated from the average of annual salaries or wages for Canadian workers, as determined by Revenue Canada, Taxation from T4 Supplementary slips.

Backgrounder #2

On June 1, 1989, the government tabled Bill C-21 which proposes amendments to the UI Act. One of the proposed amendments states that beginning January 1, 1990, UI benefits will be completely financed by employer and employee premiums. To provide premium rate stability over the next few years and allow employers to better plan their payrolls, the government has proposed to set the premium rate for employees at \$2.25 per \$100 of insurable earnings for 1990, 1991 and 1992. The employer's premium rate remains at 1.4 times the employee rate or \$3.15.

Comparison of premium rates(1986 - 1990)

	Maximum weekly insurable earnings	Premium rate per \$100 of insurable earnings		Maximum weekly contribution		Maximum amount		Annual contributions		Difference from previous year
		EE	ER	EE	ER	EE	ER	EE	ER	
		\$		\$		\$		\$		
1986	\$495	2.35	3.29	11.63	16.28	604.76	846.56			
1987	\$530	2.35	3.29	12.46	17.44	647.92	906.88	+43.16		+60.32
1988	\$565	2.35	3.29	13.28	18.59	690.56	966.68	+42.64		+59.80
1989	\$605	1.95	2.73	11.80	16.52	613.60	859.04	-76.96		-107.64
1990	\$640	2.25*	3.15*	14.40*	20.16*	748.80*	1048.32*	+135.20*		+189.28*

EE - employee contribution

ER - employer contribution (1.4 times the employee contribution)

* Based on amendments proposed in Bill C-21 (tabled in the House of Commons on June 1, 1989).

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Publications

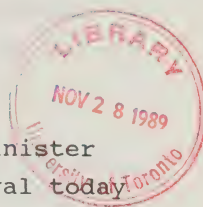
For release

Date

November 16, 1989
89-26

Agreement with German-Canadian Congress

TORONTO -- The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, announced approval today of a master sponsorship agreement with the German-Canadian Congress to assist East German nationals who would like to resettle in Canada.



Today's announcement follows discussions held between the Minister, Immigration officials and the German-Canadian Congress Executive. Under the terms of the master sponsorship agreement, the German-Canadian Congress may assist eligible refugees and those in refugee-like situations to resettle in Canada.

"Both the Congress and I," said the Minister, "agree that among the emigrés from East Germany, there may be some individuals who might prefer to settle in Canada rather than in West Germany. The government is ready to respond to such individuals under the terms of the self-exiled Designated Class program."

People in this Designated Class are in a refugee-like situation. They have left their homelands in Eastern Europe, are unwilling to return home, and have not been resettled elsewhere.

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The overwhelming majority of the emigrés are recognized as West German citizens and afforded the protection of that country. Therefore, it is also unlikely that they could be considered "refugees" in the sense of the United Nations Convention.

"While few require Canada's protection as refugees or members of the Designated Class, we want to help those who might qualify under other immigration programs. As discussed with the Congress, this can be done largely through existing programs and policies," the Minister said.

For example, Canadian employers wishing to offer jobs to East Germans are encouraged to seek validation of the offers from Canada Employment Centres. Validated job offers can then be used in support of applications by East Germans for immigration under the Independent category. The German-Canadian community may also be able to provide assistance to individuals who qualify for immigration to Canada under Family Class or Assisted Relative categories.

Mrs. McDougall added that Canadian officials will continue to monitor carefully the situation in the two Germanies.

For information:

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Minister's Office
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Public Affairs
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news release

Date December 13, 1989

For release 98-29

[89]



CAI
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- R21

Monique Vézina, Minister of State for Employment and Immigration Canada, today tabled the Second Employment Equity Act Annual Report to Parliament.

Under the Employment Equity Act, federally regulated employers with 100 or more employees must eliminate discriminatory practices, take special measures to achieve a representative work force, and submit annual reports on their progress. Failure to report could result in penalties up to \$50,000. Some 375 reports have been received.

"We are pleased with the level of co-operation shown between the employers and the government," Mme Vézina said. "And we are pleased to see a slight increase in the representation of all designated groups."

"This legislation puts Canada in the forefront of the battle for equal rights," Mme Vézina said. "Other countries are monitoring our initiatives in the area, and our legislation is being viewed as a possible model for implementation elsewhere."

Mme Vézina added that while she was pleased with the response rate of employers, the reports indicated considerable room for progress. In that regard, she expressed the hope that employers would avail themselves of the counselling services offered through Employment and Immigration to assist them in developing more effective programs.

"The Act is scheduled for review in 1991, and I fully expect to see improvements by then on these figures", the Minister said. "The second annual report provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to measure progress," she said. "However, if there is not sufficient progress by 1991, the government will consider amendments to the legislation."

Employers' reports have been made available to the Canadian Human Rights Commission, which may use the information to initiate complaints.

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The individual reports are available for public inspection in libraries across Canada or may be purchased from Supply and Services Canada.

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For further information contact:

Marnie Clarke
(819) 953-7483



communiqué

Date **Le 13 décembre 1989**

Pour publication

89-29

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POUR DIFFUSION IMMÉDIATE

M^{me} Monique Vézina, ministre d'État à l'Emploi et à l'Immigration, a déposé aujourd'hui au Parlement le deuxième rapport annuel en vertu de la Loi sur l'équité en matière d'emploi.

Aux termes de la Loi, les employeurs assujettis à la réglementation fédérale et comptant au moins 100 salariés doivent mettre fin à toute pratique discriminatoire et prendre des mesures spéciales afin de rendre leur effectif représentatif de la population active dans son ensemble. Ils doivent aussi présenter des rapports annuels sur les progrès qu'ils ont réalisés, faute de quoi ils s'exposent à des amendes pouvant s'élever à 50 000 \$. Environ 375 rapports ont été présentés.

«Nous sommes satisfaits de la coopération qui s'est établie entre les employeurs et le gouvernement, a déclaré M^{me} Vézina, et heureux de constater que tous les groupes désignés ont vu leur représentation s'améliorer légèrement.»

«La Loi sur l'équité en matière d'emploi met le Canada à l'avant-garde du combat pour l'égalité, a ajouté M^{me} Vézina. Je constate que d'autres pays suivent de près nos initiatives en ce domaine et que les mesures législatives que nous avons mises de l'avant sont fortement susceptibles de servir de modèle ailleurs dans le monde.»

Tout en se déclarant satisfaite du taux de réponse des employeurs, M^{me} Vézina a indiqué que les rapports montrent qu'il reste beaucoup à faire. A ce propos, elle a exprimé l'espoir que les employeurs feront usage des services de conseils mis à leur disposition par Emploi et Immigration Canada pour les aider à élaborer des programmes plus efficaces.

«La Loi doit faire l'objet d'un examen en 1991. Je souhaite qu'à ce moment, nous pourrions faire état de chiffres encore plus encourageants, a déclaré la Ministre. Le deuxième rapport annuel offre à tous les intervenants l'occasion de mesurer les progrès accomplis. Toutefois, si les progrès ne s'avèrent pas suffisants d'ici 1991, le gouvernement étudiera la

possibilité d'apporter des amendements aux mesures législatives.»

Les rapports des employeurs ont été communiqués à la Commission canadienne des droits de la personne qui peut, s'il y a lieu, utiliser les renseignements qu'ils contiennent.

Le public peut consulter les rapports dans les bibliothèques de toutes les régions du pays ou en acquérir une copie en s'adressant à Approvisionnement et Services Canada.

Renseignements :

Marnie Clarke
(819) 953-7483

Minister of Employment
and ImmigrationMinistre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

January 4, 1990

90-01

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced that the delay in passage of Bill C-21, amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act, means that implementation did not take place as originally scheduled on December 31, 1989.

The current Variable Entrance Requirement expires January 7. All UI claimants will now need a minimum of 14 weeks of insurable employment to qualify for benefits.

"I believe that the Senate is playing politics at the expense of the unemployed," Mrs. McDougall said. "The government has proposed a permanent Variable Entrance Requirement in Bill C-21, and will not extend the current temporary Variable Entrance Requirement. Unfortunately, many claimants who would have been entitled to benefits under Bill C-21 will now be ineligible."



In Bill C-21, the government proposes to revise the schedule of entrance requirements and benefits to reflect the widely varying labour market conditions found across the country. These amendments were designed to work in concert with the recently revised economic boundaries, also originally scheduled to take effect January 1, 1990. There will now also be a delay in instituting the new economic regions.

"It is with considerable regret that I make this announcement," the Minister added. "I believe very strongly that these amendments would go a long way to making the UI Act more responsive to the needs of unemployed Canadians in every region of this country."

Bill C-21, part of the government's Labour Force Development Strategy, is designed to maintain a safety net for unemployed Canadians. At the same time, the legislation would strengthen the UI program's ability to help claimants adapt to changing labour market conditions through counselling, skills training, and innovative re-employment programs and services.

"The UI Act requires updating to meet the needs of our times," commented Mrs. McDougall. "The UI program must assume a more active role in the labour market and must place a greater priority on developing workers' skills."

Other proposals in the bill include revisions to the current system of maternity, parental and sickness benefits to make them fairer, more flexible and longer lasting. The legislation also proposes to modify the act to extend unemployment insurance coverage to workers over the age of 65 and to people working for family members in a normal working relationship.

(See attached backgrounder)

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Backgrounder

The Variable Entrance Requirement

The Variable Entrance Requirement first came into effect in December 1977. It ties Unemployment Insurance to the different degrees of difficulty of finding and keeping work in Canada's various economic regions. In 1989 these regions were increased to 62 from 48 to better reflect local economic realities; however, implementation of the new boundaries is tied to passage of Bill C-21.

In an economic region with a high level of unemployment, claimants could need as few as 10 weeks of insurable work to qualify for UI benefits. As the unemployment rate declines, claimants need more weeks of work to qualify. Depending on their work history, claimants may need up to 20 weeks.

How the Variable Entrance Requirement works

Regional rate of unemployment	Weeks of insurable employment in the qualifying period
6.0 % and under	14
over 6.0 % - 7.0 %	13
over 7.0 % - 8.0 %	12
over 8.0 % - 9.0 %	11
over 9.0 %	10



For release

Date January 22, 1990
90-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced that three Atlantic communities facing impending fish plant closures have been selected for assistance under the Community Futures program.

In Newfoundland, the areas selected are the Burin Peninsula including Grand Bank, and the Southern Shore-St. Mary's Bay including Trepassy. Guysborough County in Nova Scotia, including Canso, has also been chosen for assistance.

"These Community Futures designations are part of a \$130 million assistance package announced by the Honourable John Crosbie on January 5," Mrs. McDougall said. "Atlantic Canadians can be assured of continuing labour adjustment aid including Community Futures support as well as other Canadian Jobs Strategy programs and Industrial Adjustment services."

Community Futures has a proven track record in helping communities, faced with major layoffs, to develop permanent employment opportunities. Among the available options are small business development, assistance for new entrepreneurs, skills training and relocation assistance.

A Community Futures committee is set up in each community to assess their needs and select from an appropriate range of program options.

A total of 15 communities in Newfoundland and 11 in Nova Scotia are now benefitting from Community Futures assistance.

Today's announcement is in addition to assistance already in place for those communities under the Industrial Adjustment Services program. Employment and Immigration officials have already met with company, union and local officials to discuss labour adjustment measures.

-30-

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Youth

February 9, 1990
90-03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Federal Government announces a new National
Stay-In-School Initiative and the Challenge '90 Program**



OTTAWA -- The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, today announced a \$296.4 million five-year stay-in-school initiative to reduce the 30 per cent dropout rate in Canadian high schools. The Minister also announced a commitment of \$171 million for the Challenge summer student employment program and for the ongoing funding of the Canada-New Brunswick and Canada-Newfoundland Youth Strategies. Total expenditures on these initiatives in 1990-91 will be \$218 million.

Describing the dropout situation as "intolerable", Mrs. McDougall said it could amount to 100,000 young people a year -- potentially one million during the 1990s -- trying to enter a labour market that increasingly will regard many of them as functionally illiterate, largely untrainable, and mostly unemployable.

"This represents a heartbreaking loss of human potential for Canadian society," said the Minister, "as well as a loss of skills and productivity that the Canadian economy simply cannot afford now or in the future."

The Minister also noted that summer employment can play a vital role in a student's transition from school to the world of work, by helping to develop the skills and experience needed in Canada's future labour market.

"Challenge '90 encourages employers from all sectors to create meaningful summer jobs for students. At the same time, the program continues to reflect the federal government's emphasis on helping those students most in need and will continue to address regional disparities," Mrs. McDougall added.

The federal stay-in-school initiative is designed to invite collective national and community efforts to deal with the dropout problem, while recognizing the provinces' fundamental responsibility for education.

"I applaud the great work achieved by educators in serving Canada's young people," said the Minister. "Now, we must forge new partnerships to support our schools, and to strengthen the link between education and the workplace."

She said that this initiative will rely on the co-operation and support of not only provincial education ministries but also the business community, labour, social service agencies, parent groups, community organizations and youth themselves.

The new federal Stay-in-School Initiative includes three major components (five-year forecast expenditures in brackets):

1. Programs and Services (\$166.3 million)

Federal labour-market programs and services now directed at in-school youth will be expanded -- notably Co-Operative Education, Work Orientation Workshops, Canada Career Week and counselling services. A new mentorship option will be added.

2. Mobilizing Partners (\$76.6 million)

The Government will mobilize business, labour, educators, the provinces and others in a national approach and community action by holding a series of consultations. If necessary, this effort will be supported through a national, non-profit, independent institution charged with stimulating dialogue and finding solutions to the dropout problem.

3. Information (\$53.5 million)

In co-operation with education ministries and private co-sponsors as appropriate, a national, multi-faceted information program will raise public awareness of the dropout problem and encourage youth to stay in school. Focusing on realistic career options and the fundamental values of a high school education, the information program will be directed primarily to at-risk youth and their parents.

Expenditures on the stay-in-school initiative will total \$47 million in its first year of operation. This new initiative will be financed primarily from a reallocation of funds from the Challenge component called SEED (Summer Employment/Experience Development), which provides employers with wage subsidies to hire students in the summer.

In the past five years, Mrs. McDougall explained, the summer student unemployment rate has steadily declined, from 14.1 per cent in 1985 to 9.5 per cent in 1989. "In this period of fiscal restraint, we've had to make a tough but necessary decision to reallocate some funds to students in greater need."

The 1990 Challenge program will operate at a level of \$140 million. Of this, SEED will receive \$77 million. The WOW program (Work Orientation Workshops), which has proven successful in helping potential dropouts evaluate their school and work options, will be increased to \$35 million from \$20 million last year.

Other Challenge programs will continue. They include the Student Business Loans program, the Business Drive for Jobs and the network of Canada Employment Centres for Students.

As well, the Canada-Newfoundland and the Canada-New Brunswick Youth Strategies, two federal-provincial joint initiatives signed in 1989, will receive \$31.3 million in 1990-91.

"The dropout problem in Canada must be addressed," said Mrs. McDougall. "Today's announcement hails the beginning of collaborative efforts with our social and economic partners. We hope to be ready to launch a first phase of this initiative this summer."

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A document outlining the National Stay-in-School Initiative and a backgrounder on the Challenge '90 program are attached.

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Backgrounder: The Challenge Program

Challenge, which was established in 1985, is the federal government's summer student employment program. It is designed to help students find summer employment and to give them developmental work experience that will assist their transition from school to work. Challenge stimulates employers to create jobs for students and to participate actively in providing valuable summer work experience to Canada's future labour force.

In the past five years the summer student unemployment rate has declined steadily, from 14.1 per cent in 1985 to 9.5 per cent in 1989. The changing student employment situation has led the federal government to shift its focus to provide more assistance to those who have the most problems in the labour market. More emphasis has been placed on helping high school students, who traditionally have the most difficulty in finding summer employment, as well as potential and recent high school dropouts, who risk a lifetime of employment problems.

As part of its efforts to find comprehensive solutions to youth employment issues, the federal government also entered into two joint federal-provincial initiatives in 1989. The Canada-New Brunswick Youth Strategy will provide up to \$70 million until 1991 to assist youth in making the transition from school or unemployment to the workplace. This initiative will receive \$22 million in 1990-91. The Canada-Newfoundland Youth Strategy will provide \$56.5 million over a five-year agreement to establish a co-operative framework to help youth make a successful school-to-work transition; \$9.3 million will be allocated in 1990-91.

Challenge '90

Challenge '90 programming reflects the federal government's continuing shift in emphasis to assisting youths at risk of dropping out of high school and to reinforcing the school-to-work transition. Program options are outlined below.

1. Summer Employment/Experience Development (SEED) (\$77 million)

SEED provides wage subsidies to employers to create summer jobs which help prepare students for their future labour market participation. Where possible, this initiative complements provincial and territorial student employment programs, a co-operative process begun in 1985.

The SEED program is divided into two streams: one for high school students, for jobs starting in late June or early July; the second for college and university students, for jobs normally starting in May.

In 1989, high school students accounted for approximately 40 per cent of SEED participants. The 1990 program will continue to target high school students, who have a higher summer unemployment rate than post-secondary students. Last year, the national average summer student unemployment rate was 10.3 per cent for high school students and 8.1 per cent for post-secondary students. (See Table 1 for a more detailed breakdown.) Regional student unemployment rates are taken into account when allocating funds.

In 1990, SEED will also encourage the creation of employment opportunities which relate to the federal government's social priorities in the areas of literacy, drug and alcohol abuse, AIDS education, the environment and urban crime. As well, this year's program encourages the hiring of visible minorities, aboriginal and disabled young people, and the creation of activities designed for these groups.

The national SEED application deadline date is March 16, 1990. Applications are available at local Canada Employment Centres.

(For subsidy rates and application details, see the Challenge '90 brochure.)

2. Work Orientation Workshops (WOW) (\$35.2 million)

WOW is intended for potential and recent high school dropouts and combines workshop and counselling sessions with practical work experience.

Introduced on an experimental basis in 1985 with a funding level of \$600,000 and 500 participants, WOW has proven very effective in helping young people rethink their education and employment options. In 1989, this summer program was expanded to include pilot year-round WOW projects in every province. The total budget in 1989 was \$20.2 million, with more than 10,000 student participants.

In 1990 WOW will again be expanded, with funding of \$27.2 million for summer WOW and \$8 million for year-round WOW.

The WOW program is a highly successful example of the federal government's collaborative approach to linking the worlds of school and work. Projects are implemented in partnership with businesses, community organizations, education institutions (with provincial concurrence) and social service agencies.

3. Student Business Loans (\$900,000)

This option helps student entrepreneurs create their own summer jobs, through an interest-free loan of up to \$3,000 to manage and operate their own small business. In 1985, the first year Student Business Loans were offered, 101 loans were approved and 229 summer jobs created. The program has expanded and in 1989, 655 loans were approved, creating more than 1,600 summer jobs.

The Student Business Loans program is based on and, where appropriate, meshes with the successful use of this approach by a number of provinces and territories. The program, which operates in Newfoundland, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories, is administered and delivered by the Federal Business Development Bank in association with the Royal Bank of Canada and the National Bank of Canada.

4. Business Drive for Jobs (\$800,000)

The Business Drive for Jobs is a collaborative effort by business organizations and firms to challenge the private sector to create summer jobs for students without using government wage subsidies.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Council of Canada work in partnership with the federal government to promote the hiring of students during the summer. The Business Drive for Jobs includes a promotional campaign by the three business organizations to their member businesses, as well as some locally-based projects.

The local hiring emphasis of the Business Drive for Jobs has proven valuable both for students and employers. Students gain work experience and learn about career opportunities in local businesses and employers are introduced to potential future employees.

5. Canada Employment Centres for Students (CEC-S)
(\$9.7 million)

There are approximately 450 student placement offices across Canada. Open during the summer months (usually from May to August), these offices help students find jobs and help employers locate workers. The CEC-S offers a free placement service to employers; there is no charge for listing a job vacancy. In 1989, the CEC-S recorded approximately 370,000 student placements across Canada. (In Alberta, these centres are known as Hire-A-Student (HAS) offices; in Manitoba, they are called Student/Youth Employment Centres.)

6. Native Internship Program (\$2.3 million)

This program, which is offered by Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC), provides aboriginal students with work experience during vacation breaks from school, through jobs within EIC offices. This also provides students with an opportunity to consider the public service as a career alternative. In 1989, 543 students benefitted from the program.

CHALLENGE '89
SECONDARY AND POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS
UNEMPLOYMENT LEVELS AND SEED PARTICIPATION RATES

Region	% of the number of unemployed returning students*		Student unemployment rate (%) *		TOTAL	% of participants in 1989 under SEED	
	Secondary	Post-Sec.	Secondary	Post-Sec.		Secondary	Post-Sec.
Nfld.	73.0	27.0	19.5	14.2	17.8	58.7	41.3
P.E.I.	**	**	**	**	**	30.9	69.1
N.S.	73.5	26.5	13.5	11.4	12.6	49.0	51.0
N.B.	77.6	22.4	17.8	11.7	16.0	40.0	60.0
Que.	42.6	57.4	10.5	11.8	11.2	23.5	76.5 ***
Ont.	77.8	22.2	7.7	4.8	6.7	50.0	50.0
Man.	80.9	19.1	13.0	6.9	11.1	34.7	65.3
Sask.	77.9	22.1	11.1	7.1	9.9	37.0	63.0
Alta.	80.4	19.6	13.0	5.2	10.0	30.4	69.6
B.C.	79.7	20.3	13.7	9.4	12.6	40.2	59.8
Canada	69.0	31.0	10.3	8.1	9.5	36.9	63.1

* Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey - May to August monthly averages

** Insufficient data for estimate

*** CEPEPs are included as post-secondary in Quebec

SPEAKING NOTES FOR AN ADDRESS

BY

THE HONOURABLE BARBARA MCDOUGALL
MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

TO ANNOUNCE A NATIONAL STAY-IN-SCHOOL
INITIATIVE AND THE CHALLENGE '90 PROGRAM

ON

FEBRUARY 9, 1990

NATIONAL PRESS THEATRE, OTTAWA

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

I have invited you here today to announce two endeavours. First, a major new development in the youth and labour market policies of the Government of Canada and, second, our summer employment program for students.

In brief, the Government will reallocate \$296.4 million from existing labour market programs over a five-year period to launch a national stay-in-school initiative in collaboration with the provinces, business, labour and others, in ways I will outline in a moment.

The fundamental purpose of this federal initiative is to respond to the serious threat that the secondary school dropout rate poses to the future productivity of the Canadian economy.

National consultations with our economic partners, as part of the Government's new Labour Force Development Strategy, have heightened the expectations and pressures for Canada to improve the skills and productivity of its labour force.

To explain, let me begin by placing the dropout situation in a national context:

Canada has a good secondary school system. It has progressed strongly in all provinces and territories during the last several decades, and it now succeeds in graduating about 70 per cent of its high school students, compared with only about 30 per cent as recently as the 1950s.

Nevertheless, as we begin the 1990s, nearly 100,000 young people are still dropping out of secondary school every year, a dropout rate of more than 30 per cent.

At this rate, by the year 2000 we could see as many as one million under-educated and untrained youth trying to enter a labour market that increasingly won't want them.

That situation is intolerable.

We estimate that two-thirds of all jobs created in Canada during this decade will require more than 12 years of education and training. Many of those jobs will demand at least five years of education and training beyond high school.

Conversely, the number of new lower-skilled jobs will decline.

This environment will stifle most high school dropouts. They will be unprepared for the transition from school to employment.

Many will be functionally illiterate. Many will lack the basic skills necessary for effective training in the workplace and for future skills development.

Many will, in short, be caught in a cycle of unstable jobs and some level of dependency on the social welfare system.

For them this will mean frustration and despair.

For Canadian society it will represent an unacceptable loss of human potential.

It will contribute to high social costs resulting from unemployment, illiteracy, and poverty.

It will mean a loss of skills and productivity that the Canadian economy simply cannot afford now or in the future.

This situation warrants collective action, now, by governments, educators, the business community, labour, welfare agencies, parents and youth.

We do not underestimate the difficulty of the task at hand. The dropout phenomenon involves a complex set of cultural and institutional factors, some of them imperfectly understood.

The provinces are already active in this area and continue to make progress in high school student retention. The business community, labour and others are being encouraged to help.

The federal government's initiative in this field is related to its responsibility for economic direction in general and labour market policies in particular.

The future productivity and competitiveness of the Canadian economy require action now to ensure the development and efficient use of available resources, including human resources. This is the basic thrust of the Labour Force Development Strategy -- to develop skills that will match the demands of accelerating technological change.

In these circumstances Canada cannot afford to remain indifferent to the potential waste of human resources represented by so many young people abandoning their basic education. We must do everything possible to encourage those young people to think realistically about the labour market and to encourage their individual participation and personal fulfillment.

Our approach is one of collaborative planning. From this collaboration, specific activities will be designed so that a co-ordinated stay-in-school initiative can be launched in late summer, shortly before the return to school.

As a framework for this planning process, the Government of Canada is advancing the following three components of a national initiative:

1. Federal labour-market programs and services now directed mainly at youth will be expanded -- notably Co-Operative Education, Work Orientation Workshops, Canada Career Week and counselling. A new mentorship service for youth most at risk of dropping out will be developed.
2. The Government will endeavour to mobilize business, labour, educators, the provinces, and others in a national approach and at the community level. If necessary, a national, non-profit independent institution will be created to stimulate dialogue and help find solutions to the dropout problem.
3. Working with private co-sponsors and education ministries where appropriate, the Government will mount an information program to raise public awareness of the dropout situation, and inform young people of realistic career options and the need to complete their high school education.

Funding this initiative in a period of fiscal restraint requires difficult decisions.

Over the past five years, the student summer unemployment rate has declined significantly, from 14.1 per cent in 1985 to 9.5 per cent in 1989. It became evident that the level of support we have provided to summer student employment in recent years could be more effectively used to encourage young people to stay in school.

The Stay-in-School Initiative will be financed primarily through a reallocation of funding within the Challenge program, the Government's summer employment program for students.

Challenge '90 and the federal-provincial Youth Strategies in New Brunswick and Newfoundland will receive \$171 million to provide summer jobs and job support for young people. In 1990-91, total expenditures for these programs and the Stay-in-School initiative will be \$218 million.

The Challenge program this summer will have the same components as last year. It will include the Student Business Loans Program and the Business Drive for Jobs -- both of these to remain unchanged -- as well as the Work Orientation Workshops or WOW program and the SEED component.

The WOW program, which has been very effective in helping potential high school dropouts evaluate their school and work options, will be increased, to \$35 million this year from \$20 million in 1989.

The Summer Employment/Experience Development -- or SEED -- portion of Challenge has been reduced by \$41.8 million from 1989 levels, and these funds redirected to the Stay-in-School Initiative. The SEED program, which provides salary subsidies to employers for hiring students in the summer, will be funded at \$77 million.

This transfer of funds from one student program to another is necessary if we want to respond to the needs of those young people most likely to experience serious labour force problems.

Challenge '90 will once again focus on regional needs because we know there are great differences in the availability of work nation-wide. Last year, for instance, the unemployment rate for students in Newfoundland was 17.8 per cent, while in Ontario it was 6.7 per cent. In fact, in some metropolitan areas last summer there were more jobs than students to fill them.

Our efforts in Challenge' 90 will continue to allocate resources fairly, according to the student employment conditions in certain regions.

In general, we believe that it is important to focus our efforts on those who enter the labour market at a clear disadvantage -- in this case, those young people most at risk of dropping out of secondary school.

While federal government summer employment programs will be continued at a high level, it's obvious that government can't do it all. The private sector has a major role to play in introducing young people to the world of work and smoothing their ultimate transition from school to the workplace.

I am providing separate documentation that reviews the Stay-in-School Initiative and the Challenge program in more detail.

In closing, let me emphasize that the Government of Canada in taking this initiative is relying on the spirited, imaginative collaboration of provincial governments, business, labour, educators, welfare groups, parents' organizations and youth.

We regard this initiative as a national necessity. Success will require commitment, innovation, energy, co-operation and organization.

No one familiar with the knowledge and skill requirements for the growth of Canadian productivity, employment and incomes will see any acceptable alternative to this kind of investment.

It's a sound investment from which all Canadians can profit. The future holds great potential for our young people. Our collective challenge is to make sure they have the best possible chance of achieving that potential.

Thank you.

Quiconque est au fait du savoir et des compétences qu'implique la croissance de la productivité, de l'emploi et du revenu au Canada ne saurait se soustraire à cette forme d'engagement.

C'est là un investissement logique dont tous les Canadiens bénéficieront. L'avenir est riche de promesses pour notre jeunesse. Collectivement, nous avons l'obligation de faire en sorte que tous aient le maximum de chance de profiter des perspectives qui s'offrent à eux.

Merci.

Nous croyons qu'il est important de concentrer nos efforts sur ceux qui sont nettement désavantagés alors qu'ils se préparent à entrer sur le marché du travail. Il s'agit, en l'occurrence, des jeunes les plus susceptibles d'abandonner leurs études secondaires.

Même si le programme d'emploi d'été du gouvernement fédéral se poursuivra sur une vaste échelle, il est bien évident que le gouvernement ne peut agir seul. Le secteur privé a lui aussi un rôle de premier plan à jouer, notamment en initiant les jeunes au monde du travail et en leur facilitant la transition du monde des études à celui du travail, quand le moment sera venu.

Je vous remets d'autres documents qui décrivent de façon plus détaillée le programme Défi ainsi que l'initiative prise en vue de combattre le décrochage. En terminant, permettez-moi de souligner qu'en prenant cette initiative, le gouvernement du Canada compte sur la collaboration enthousiaste et la créativité des gouvernements provinciaux, du monde des affaires, des syndicats, des enseignants, des groupes sociaux, des organisations de parents et des jeunes.

Nous considérons cette initiative comme une nécessité d'ordre national. Son succès exigera de l'engagement, de l'innovation, de l'énergie, de la coopération et de l'organisation.

L'option Emploi d'été/Expérience de travail ou EBEET, qui fait partie de Défi, a été réduite de 41,8 millions de dollars par rapport au niveau de financement de 1989 et ces fonds seront réaffectés au Projet d'incitation à la poursuite des études. L'option Emploi d'été/Expérience de travail disposera de 77 millions de dollars. Cette option fournit une aide salariale aux employeurs qui embauchent des étudiants pendant l'été. Ce transfert d'argent d'un programme à l'intention des étudiants en faveur d'un autre est rendu nécessaire si nous voulons répondre aux besoins des jeunes qui, vraisemblablement, éprouveront de sérieuses difficultés sur le marché du travail.

De nouveau, Défi 90 mettra l'accent sur les besoins régionaux parce que nous savons qu'il existe de grands écarts au niveau des emplois disponibles à l'échelle du pays. L'année dernière, par exemple, le taux de chômage des étudiants à Terre-Neuve était de 17,8 pour 100 tandis qu'en Ontario, il n'était que de 6,7 pour 100. En réalité, dans certains grands centres urbains au cours de l'été dernier, il y avait plus d'emplois qu'il n'y avait d'étudiants.

Nos efforts dans le cadre de Défi 90 nous amèneront à affecter les ressources de manière équitable, tout en tenant compte des conditions d'emploi des étudiants dans certaines régions.

Le programme Défi 90 et les stratégies-Jeunesse Canada--Nouveau-Brunswick et Canada--Terre-Neuve recevront 171 millions de dollars afin de créer des emplois d'été et d'aider les jeunes dans leur recherche d'emploi. Au cours de 1990-1991, les dépenses globales touchant ces initiatives et le Projet d'incitation à la poursuite des études s'élèveront à 218 millions de dollars.

Cet été, le programme Défi comprendra les mêmes options que l'année dernière. Mentionnons l'option Prêts aux étudiants entrepreneurs et l'option Promotion des initiatives privées -- qui demeurent toutes deux inchangées -- ainsi que les options Ateliers d'orientation au travail (AOT) et Emploi d'été/Expérience de travail (EET).

L'option Ateliers d'orientation au travail a connu beaucoup de succès en aidant les décrocheurs éventuels du niveau secondaire à évaluer leurs choix tant du point de vue des études que du point de vue du travail; son budget sera de nouveau augmenté et atteindra 35 millions de dollars cette année, comparativement à 20 millions de dollars en 1989.

3. Le cas échéant, le gouvernement, de concert avec des organismes privés et les ministères de l'éducation, mettra en place un programme d'information afin de sensibiliser le public au problème des décrocheurs et d'informer les jeunes des possibilités réalistes de carrière ainsi que de la nécessité de terminer leurs études secondaires.

Le financement de cette initiative en période de restrictions financières nous force à faire des choix difficiles.

Au cours des cinq dernières années, le taux de chômage des étudiants en été a chuté de manière importante, soit de 14,1 pour 100 en 1985 à 9,5 pour 100 en 1989. Il devient évident que l'appui offert au niveau de l'emploi d'été des étudiants au cours des récentes années pourrait, de manière encore plus efficace, être utilisé en vue d'encourager les jeunes à demeurer aux études.

Le projet national d'incitation à la poursuite des études sera financé par la réaffectation de fonds provenant surtout de Déril, le programme fédéral d'emplois d'été pour étudiants.

Comme cadre à ce processus de planification, le gouvernement du Canada propose les trois éléments suivants constituant une initiative d'envergure nationale :

1. On étendra la portée des programmes et services du marché du travail s'adressant principalement aux jeunes, soit l'enseignement coopératif, les Ateliers d'orientation au travail, la Semaine canadienne de l'orientation et l'orientation professionnelle. On élaborera une nouvelle mesure d'encadrement pour les jeunes les plus susceptibles de décrocher.

2. Le gouvernement s'efforcera de mobiliser le monde des affaires, les syndicats, les enseignants dans le cadre d'une approche nationale et au niveau des collectivités. Si nécessaire, nous créerons une institution nationale indépendante et sans but lucratif, chargée de stimuler le dialogue et de trouver des solutions éventuelles au problème du décrochage.

La productivité et la compétitivité futures de l'économie canadienne exigent une action immédiate afin d'assurer le développement et l'utilisation efficace de nos ressources disponibles, y compris nos ressources humaines. Ces préoccupations constituent le fondement même de la stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'oeuvre -- laquelle vise à développer des compétences qui répondront aux exigences des changements technologiques accélérés.

Dans ces circonstances, le Canada ne peut se permettre de demeurer indifférent à la perte de potentiel humain de tous ces jeunes gens qui quittent les études. Nous devons faire tout ce qui est possible afin de les encourager à se faire une idée réaliste du marché du travail et de promouvoir la participation et l'accomplissement de chacun d'eux.

Notre approche veut d'abord en être une de planification concertée. Viendront s'y greffer des mesures particulières de nature à favoriser la création d'un projet d'incitation à la poursuite des études coordonnées qui pourra être lancé à la fin de l'été, juste avant la rentrée scolaire.

Cela veut dire aussi une perte de compétences et de productivité que l'économie canadienne ne peut tout simplement pas se permettre maintenant et dans l'avenir.

Cette situation commande une action collective immédiate autant des gouvernements, des enseignants, du monde des affaires, que des syndicats, des organismes d'aide sociale, des parents et des jeunes.

Nous ne sous-estimons pas la difficulté de la tâche à accomplir. Le phénomène du décrochage comporte un ensemble complexe de facteurs culturels et institutionnels dont certains sont bien mal compris.

Les provinces jouent déjà un rôle actif dans ce domaine et continuent de faire des progrès dans leurs efforts visant à retenir aux études les jeunes du niveau secondaire. Nous incitons le monde des affaires, les syndicats et tous les autres intervenants à oeuvrer dans ce but.

Le gouvernement fédéral s'engage à lutter contre le décrochage en raison de ses responsabilités en matière d'orientation économique et de développement de politiques s'appliquant au marché du travail.

Par contre, le nombre des nouveaux emplois n'exigeant pas de formation poussée diminuera.

Cet environnement étouffera la majorité des décrocheurs du niveau secondaire. Ils ne seront pas prêts pour effectuer la transition de l'école à l'emploi.

Plusieurs seront des analphabètes fonctionnels. De nombreux autres n'auront même pas les compétences de base requises pour recevoir une formation efficace au travail ou encore pour acquérir d'autres compétences dans l'avenir.

En bref, plusieurs seront pris dans le cycle des emplois instables et d'une certaine forme de dépendance à l'égard du régime d'assistance publique.

Pour eux, ce sera la frustration et le désespoir.

Pour la société canadienne, cette situation représentera une perte inacceptable de potentiel humain.

Cela contribuera aussi à des coûts sociaux élevés résultant du chômage, de l'analphabétisme et de la pauvreté.

Permettez-moi d'abord de situer le problème du décrochage dans son contexte national :

Le Canada possède un bon système d'enseignement secondaire. Ce dernier a fait des progrès plus qu'appréciables dans toutes les provinces, de même que dans les territoires au cours des dernières décennies, et il réussit maintenant à faire obtenir un diplôme à quelque 70 pour 100 de ses élèves, comparativement à seulement 30 pour 100 environ dans les années 1950.

Toutefois, en ce début des années 1990, près de cent mille jeunes gens laissent encore tomber leurs études secondaires chaque année, soit un taux de décrochage approximatif de plus de 30 pour 100.

A ce rythme, d'ici l'an 2000, nous pourrions voir près d'un million de jeunes sous-instruits et sans formation essayer d'entrer sur un marché du travail qui a de moins en moins besoin d'eux.

Cette situation est intolérable.

Nous prévoyons que les deux tiers des emplois créés au Canada au cours de la prochaine décennie requerront plus de 12 années de scolarité et de formation. Plusieurs de ces emplois exigeront au moins cinq années d'études et de formation en plus du cours secondaire.

Mesdames et Messieurs, bonjour.

Je vous ai convoqué aujourd'hui pour deux raisons :
afin de vous annoncer un développement majeur dans les
politiques du gouvernement du Canada en faveur des
jeunes et du marché du travail, et pour vous faire part
de notre programme d'emplois d'été pour étudiants.

En bref, le gouvernement réalisera quelque
296,4 millions de dollars de ses programmes existants
de développement du marché du travail pour une période
de cinq ans afin de lancer un projet national
d'incitation à la poursuite des études en collaboration
avec les provinces, le monde des affaires, les
syndicats et d'autres intervenants. Je vous en
brosserai d'ailleurs le tableau dans un instant.

Le dessein fondamental de ce projet est de répondre à
la sérieuse menace que pose le taux de décrochage au
niveau secondaire à la productivité future de
l'économie canadienne.

Nos consultations nationales avec nos partenaires
économiques, dans le cadre de la nouvelle stratégie de
mise en valeur de la main-d'œuvre du gouvernement
fédéral, a suscité bien des attentes et incite le
Canada à améliorer les compétences et la productivité
de ses travailleurs.

A VÉRIFIER LORS DE L'ALLOCATION

THÉÂTRE DE LA PRESSE PARLEMENTAIRE, OTTAWA

LE 9 FÉVRIER 1990

POUR ANNONCER UN PROJET NATIONAL D'INCITATION À LA
POURSUIITE DES ÉTUDES ET LE PROGRAMME DÉFI 90

MINISTRE DE L'EMPLOI ET DE L'IMMIGRATION

MME BARBARA MCDUGALL

NOTES POUR UNE ALLOCATION DE

DÉFI 1989
ÉTUDIANTS DES NIVEAUX SECONDAIRE ET POSTSECONDAIRE
TAUX DE CHÔMAGE ET DE PARTICIPATION À L'OPTION ÉFÉT

Région	% de nombre d'étudiants en chômage qui reviennent*		Taux de chômage étudiant (%) *		TOTAL	% des participants en 1989 à ÉFÉT	
	SEC.	POSTSEC.	SEC.	POSTSEC.		SEC.	POSTSEC.
T.-N.	73,0	27,0	19,5	14,2	17,8	58,7	41,3
I.-P.-É.	**	**	**	**	**	30,9	69,1
N.-É.	73,5	26,5	13,5	11,4	12,6	49,0	51,0
N.-B.	77,6	22,4	17,8	11,7	16,0	40,0	60,0
Qc	42,6	57,4	10,5	11,8	11,2	23,5	76,5 ***
Ont.	77,8	22,2	7,7	4,8	6,7	50,0	50,0
Man.	80,9	19,1	13,0	6,9	11,1	34,7	65,3
Sask.	77,9	22,1	11,1	7,1	9,9	37,0	63,0
Alb.	80,4	19,6	13,0	5,2	10,0	30,4	69,6
C.-B.	79,7	20,3	13,7	9,4	12,6	40,2	59,8
Canada	69,0	31,0	10,3	8,1	9,5	36,9	63,1

* Source : Enquête sur la population active de Statistique Canada - moyennes mensuelles de mai à août.

** Données insuffisantes ne permettant pas de faire des estimations.

*** Les cégeps sont compris dans le niveau postsecondaire au Québec.

Offerte par Emploi et Immigration Canada (EIC), cette option permet aux étudiants autochtones d'acquérir une expérience de travail dans les bureaux d'EIC pendant les congés scolaires. Elle leur donne aussi la possibilité de voir si une carrière dans la fonction publique les intéresse. En 1989, 543 étudiants ont profité de cette option.

6. Programme des stagiaires autochtones
(2,3 millions de dollars)

Il existe environ 450 bureaux de placement d'étudiants dans l'ensemble du Canada. Ouverts durant l'été (c'est-à-dire habituellement du mois de mai au mois d'août), ces bureaux aident les étudiants à trouver du travail et, les employeurs, des travailleurs. Les Centres d'Emploi du Canada pour étudiants (CECE) fournissent aux employeurs un service de placement gratuit; il n'y a pas de frais pour l'affichage des offres d'emploi. En 1989, les CECE avaient à leur actif 370 000 placements d'étudiants environ dans tout le Canada. (En Alberta, les CECE portent le nom de Bureau d'embauchage des étudiants, alors qu'au Manitoba ce sont des Centres d'emploi pour étudiants et jeunes.)

5. Centres d'Emploi du Canada pour étudiants (CECE)
(9,7 millions de dollars)

Offerte à Terre-Neuve, au Québec, au Manitoba, en Saskatchewan, en Alberta, au Yukon et dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest, cette option est administrée et exécutée par la Banque fédérale de développement, avec la collaboration de la Banque Royale du Canada et de la Banque Nationale du Canada.

4. Promotion des initiatives privées (800 000 \$)

L'option Promotion des initiatives privées est une action conjointe des milieux d'affaires et des entreprises visant à inciter le secteur privé à créer des emplois d'été pour étudiants et ce, sans avoir recours aux subventions salariales gouvernementales.

L'Association des manufacturiers canadiens, la Chambre de commerce du Canada et le Conseil canadien du commerce de détail se joignent au gouvernement fédéral pour promouvoir l'embauchage d'étudiants pendant l'été. L'option Promotion des initiatives privées comprend une campagne d'information orchestrée par ces trois organismes et destinée à leurs membres, de même que quelques projets locaux.

L'importance accordée à l'embauchage au niveau local, dans le cadre de cette option, se révèle profitable à la fois aux étudiants et aux employeurs. Les étudiants acquièrent une expérience de travail et découvrent des débouchés dans les entreprises locales, tandis que les employeurs font connaissance avec d'éventuels futurs employés.

L'égard de l'emploi et des études. En 1989, cette option offerte l'été a été élargie pour englober la mise en place, dans toutes les provinces, de projets pilotes échelonnés sur une période d'un an. En 1989, elle était dotée d'un budget de 20,2 millions de dollars et comptait plus de 10 000 participants.

L'option AOT sera de nouveau élargie en 1990, avec un budget de 27,2 millions de dollars pour les ateliers d'été et de 8 millions de dollars pour les ateliers échelonnés sur un an.

L'option AOT est un exemple du succès que connaît le gouvernement fédéral dans son approche conjointe visant à faire le lien entre le monde du travail et celui des études. Les projets AOT sont offerts en collaboration avec des entreprises, des organisations communautaires, des établissements d'enseignement (sous réserve de l'approbation de la province) ainsi que des organismes de services sociaux.

3. Prêts aux étudiants entrepreneurs (900 000 \$)

Cette option aide les étudiants entrepreneurs à créer leur propre emploi d'été, grâce à un prêt sans intérêt d'au plus 3 000 \$ pour la gestion et l'exploitation de leur petite entreprise. En 1985, première année d'existence de l'option Prêts aux étudiants entrepreneurs, 101 prêts ont été approuvés et 229 emplois ont été créés. L'option a pris de l'ampleur et, en 1989, le nombre de prêts consentis est passé à 655, permettant la création de plus de 1 600 emplois d'été.

L'option Prêts aux étudiants entrepreneurs s'inspire de programmes semblables réalisés avec succès dans un certain nombre de provinces et territoires et, au besoin, s'harmonise avec eux.

leur taux de chômage moyen était de 10,3 p. 100 par rapport à 8,1 p. 100 pour ceux du niveau postsecondaire. (Pour plus de précisions, voir le tableau 1). L'affectation des fonds tient également compte des taux régionaux de chômage des étudiants.

En 1990, l'option EFFT favorisera également la création de possibilités d'emploi en rapport avec les priorités d'ordre social du gouvernement fédéral dans les domaines de l'alphabétisation, de l'abus de drogues et d'alcool, de la sensibilisation au problème du SIDA, de l'environnement et du crime en milieu urbain. De plus, cette année, les employeurs sont encouragés à embaucher des membres des minorités visibles ainsi que des jeunes autochtones et des jeunes handicapés, et à mettre sur pied des projets à l'intention de ces groupes.

La date limite nationale pour les demandes en vertu de l'option EFFT est fixée au 16 mars 1990. Les formulaires de demande sont disponibles dans les Centres d'Emploi du Canada. (Pour les taux de subvention et des précisions sur cette option, voir la brochure Défi 90).

2. Ateliers d'orientation au travail (AOT) (35,2 millions de dollars)

L'option AOT vise les décrocheurs récents et éventuels du niveau secondaire et combine les ateliers et les séances de counselling à l'expérience de travail pratique.

Mise en oeuvre sous forme de projet pilote en 1985, avec un budget de 600 000 \$ et 500 participants, cette option a connu beaucoup de succès en aidant les jeunes à repenser leurs choix à

transition du monde des études à celui du travail. Elle recevra 9,3 millions de dollars en 1990-1991.

Défi 90

Le programme Défi 90 reflète le changement de priorité du gouvernement fédéral qui met davantage l'accent sur les problèmes des jeunes susceptibles d'abandonner leurs études secondaires. Il insiste particulièrement sur la transition de l'école au marché du travail. En voici les diverses options :

1. Emploi d'été/Expérience de travail (EET) (77 millions de dollars)

Dans le cadre de l'option EET, des subventions salariales sont accordées aux employeurs pour créer des emplois d'été afin d'initier les étudiants au monde du travail. Dans certains cas, ce programme est harmonisé avec les programmes provinciaux ou territoriaux d'emploi pour étudiants, un processus qui a commencé en 1985.

L'option EET comporte deux volets : l'un visant les étudiants du niveau secondaire, pour les emplois qui débutent à la fin de juin ou au début de juillet, et l'autre visant les étudiants des collèges et universités, concernant des emplois qui débutent généralement en mai.

En 1989, les étudiants du niveau secondaire représentaient environ 40 p. 100 des participants à l'option EET. Défi 90 continuera de mettre l'accent sur les étudiants du niveau secondaire dont le taux de chômage en été est plus élevé que celui des étudiants de niveau postsecondaire. L'été dernier,

Créé en 1985, Défi est le programme fédéral d'emplois d'été pour étudiants. Il a été conçu pour aider les étudiants à trouver un emploi d'été et leur permettre d'acquérir une expérience pratique qui les aidera à faire la transition du monde des études au monde du travail. Défi encourage les employeurs à créer des emplois pour étudiants et à contribuer activement à offrir une expérience de travail enrichissante à la future main-d'oeuvre du Canada.

Au cours des cinq dernières années, le taux de chômage des étudiants en été n'a cessé de diminuer, passant de 14,1 p. 100 en 1985 à 9,5 p. 100 en 1989. La situation changeante des jeunes sur le marché du travail a amené le gouvernement fédéral à mettre l'accent sur ceux qui éprouvent le plus de difficultés à accéder au marché du travail. Le gouvernement s'attache à aider davantage les étudiants du niveau secondaire qui, traditionnellement, trouvent plus difficilement un emploi d'été, ainsi que les étudiants du niveau secondaire qui ont récemment abandonné leurs études ou sont sur le point de le faire. Ces derniers risquent d'éprouver toute leur vie des difficultés à se trouver un emploi.

Dans le cadre des efforts déployés par le gouvernement fédéral pour trouver des solutions globales aux questions d'emploi des jeunes, deux accords fédéraux-provinciaux ont été signés en 1989. La Stratégie-Jeunesse Canada--Nouveau-Brunswick fournira pour sa part jusqu'à 70 millions de dollars jusqu'en 1991 pour aider les jeunes à faire la transition de l'école ou du chômage, au monde du travail. Elle recevra 22 millions de dollars en 1990-1991. Quant à la Stratégie-Jeunesse Canada--Terre-Neuve, elle fournira une aide de 56,5 millions de dollars, en vertu d'une entente quinquennale en vue d'établir un cadre de travail conjoint permettant d'aider les jeunes à réussir la

«Nous devons trouver une solution au problème de l'abandon scolaire au Canada, a indiqué Mme McDougall. Nous annonçons aujourd'hui le lancement d'une collaboration avec nos partenaires sociaux et économiques. Nous espérons être en mesure d'entreprendre la première étape de ce projet cet été.»

Vous trouverez en annexe les grandes lignes du Projet national d'incitation à la poursuite des études et des données documentaires sur le programme Défi 90.

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Mme McDougall a expliqué que le taux de chômage des étudiants en été, à la baisse depuis cinq ans, est passé de 14,1 p. 100 en 1985 à 9,5 p. 100 en 1989. « Pendant cette période de restrictions financières, nous avons dû prendre la décision difficile qui s'imposait de réaffecter certains fonds afin de venir en aide aux jeunes qui en avaient le plus besoin. »

En 1990, 140 millions de dollars seront consacrés au programme Défi. De cette somme, 77 millions de dollars iront à la composante EDET. Quant à la somme affectée à l'option AOT (Ateliers d'orientation au travail), qui a permis d'aider des décrocheurs éventuels à faire le point sur les possibilités d'études et d'emplois qui s'offraient à eux, elle passera cette année à 35 millions de dollars, comparativement à 20 millions de dollars l'an dernier.

Les autres options du programme Défi seront maintenues. Il s'agit notamment des options Prêts aux étudiants entrepreneurs et Promotion des initiatives privées, et du réseau des Centres d'Emploi du Canada pour étudiants.

Les deux stratégies-Jeunesse Canada--Terre-Neuve et Canada--Nouveau-Brunswick, dans le cadre d'un accord fédéral-provincial conclu en 1989, recevront 31,3 millions de dollars en 1990-1991.

3. Information (53,5 millions de dollars)

En collaboration avec les ministères de l'Éducation et, selon le cas, avec des promoteurs privés, on lancera un programme national de sensibilisation du public au problème de l'abandon scolaire, programme à plusieurs volets visant à inciter les jeunes à la persévérance scolaire. Ce programme d'information, qui mettra l'accent tout particulièrement sur les possibilités réalisées de carrière et sur l'importance fondamentale des études secondaires, s'adressera principalement aux jeunes susceptibles d'abandonner leurs études et à leurs parents.

Les dépenses au chapitre du projet national d'incitation à la poursuite des études s'élèveront à 47 millions de dollars au cours de la première année de sa mise en oeuvre. Le Projet sera financé principalement en réalisant certains des fonds consacrés à la composante EET (Emploi d'été/Expérience de travail) du programme Défi. Cette composante permet d'offrir des subventions salariales aux employeurs pour qu'ils embauchent des étudiants pendant l'été.

Le nouveau projet fédéral d'incitation à la poursuite des études comporte trois principaux volets (les dépenses prévues pour les cinq prochaines années figurent entre parenthèses) :

1. Programmes et services (166,3 millions de dollars)

La portée des programmes et services fédéraux du marché du travail, qui visent actuellement les étudiants, sera élargie, notamment le programme Alternance travail-études, les Ateliers d'orientation et au travail, la Semaine canadienne de l'orientation et les services de counselling. Une nouvelle mesure d'encadrement sera élaborée.

2. Mobilisation des intervenants (76,6 millions de dollars)

Le gouvernement mobilisera les entreprises, les syndicats, les enseignants, les provinces et d'autres intervenants afin de trouver une solution nationale et de mener une action communautaire. A cette fin, on organisera une série de consultations locales et nationales. Si nécessaire, un organisme national indépendant, sans but lucratif, chargé d'encourager le dialogue et de trouver des solutions au problème de l'abandon scolaire, appuiera les efforts faits par ces parties.

«Défi 90 encourage les employeurs de tous les secteurs à créer des emplois d'été intéressants pour les étudiants. Par la même occasion, ce programme continue de refléter l'engagement du gouvernement fédéral à aider les étudiants qui en ont le plus besoin et, comme par le passé, continuera d'aborder le problème des inégalités régionales», a déclaré Mme McDougall.

Tout en reconnaissant que l'éducation relève de la compétence des provinces, le gouvernement fédéral a décidé de lancer un projet national d'incitation à la poursuite des études afin d'encourager les parties intéressées, tant au niveau du pays qu'à celui des collectivités, à unir leurs efforts afin de régler le problème des jeunes qui abandonnent leurs études.

«Je félicite les enseignants de l'excellent travail qu'ils font auprès de nos jeunes, a déclaré la Ministre. Nous devons maintenant nouer de nouvelles relations afin de venir en aide à nos écoles et de renforcer le lien qui existe entre l'éducation et le marché du travail.»

Mme McDougall a ajouté que la collaboration et l'appui des ministères provinciaux de l'éducation, des milieux des affaires, des syndicats, des organismes d'aide sociale, des associations de parents, des organismes communautaires et des jeunes eux-mêmes seront nécessaires à la réalisation de ce projet.

La Ministre a de plus noté que l'emploi d'été peut jouer un rôle important dans la transition que doit faire l'étudiant du monde scolaire au monde du travail. Ce genre d'emploi permet de développer les habiletés et d'acquérir une expérience, qui seront exigées sur le marché du travail.

« Cette situation représente non seulement une perte navrante de potentiel humain pour la société canadienne, a indiqué la Ministre, mais aussi une perte de compétences et de productivité, ce que l'économie canadienne ne peut absolument se permettre aujourd'hui ni demain. »

Mme McDougall, qui a qualifié d'intolérable la situation de l'abandon scolaire, a indiqué que, dans les circonstances actuelles, 100 000 jeunes par année (soit un million au cours des années 1990) pourraient chercher à s'intégrer à un marché du travail où ils seront de plus en plus considérés comme des analphabètes fonctionnels, presque impossibles à former et largement inaptes au travail.

Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a dévoilé aujourd'hui un projet quinquennal d'incitation à la poursuite des études, évalué à 296,4 millions de dollars, visant à réduire le taux d'abandon des études secondaires, qui s'élève à 30 p. 100 au Canada. La Ministre a de plus annoncé un financement de l'ordre de 171 millions de dollars pour le programme d'emploi d'été des étudiants, Défi 90, et aussi pour les deux accords fédéraux-provinciaux appelés Stratégie-Jeunesse Canada--Nouveau-Brunswick et Stratégie-Jeunesse Canada--Terre-Neuve. Les dépenses globales pour ces initiatives s'élèveront à 218 millions de dollars en 1990-1991.

Le gouvernement fédéral annonce un projet national d'incitation à la poursuite des études et le programme Défi 90

POUR DIFFUSION IMMEDIATE

Le 9 février 1990
90-03

Jeunesse

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

CANADA



For release

Date

March 20, 1990

90-04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PRESS RELEASE

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today brought forward new guidelines for immigration officers to consider in applying humanitarian and compassionate considerations in reviewing refugee claims. The guidelines were announced in response to a recent Federal Court of Canada judgement (Yhap). In announcing her response, the Minister rejected any suggestion of an amnesty and said that she intends to continue the refugee backlog clearance program.

"To declare an amnesty would be to tell the world that Canada tolerates disrespect for its laws. I cannot do that," the Minister stated. "Canadians live by the laws of their country, and they rightly demand that those who come here also live by those laws."

"It is true that -- on one level -- an amnesty might offer an easy way out of the backlog problems. But the easy way out is seldom the right way out," the Minister added. "With the new guidelines, refugee claimants and Canadians can be assured that the system reflects our fundamental commitment to justice and fairness. At the same time, they can be assured that the refugee backlog will be cleared as fast as is humanly possible."

The first two stages in the refugee backlog clearance program are: (1) an initial humanitarian and compassionate review and (2) a hearing before an independent two-person panel. People can be accepted either on the basis of humanitarian or compassionate factors (see backgrounder #1) or on the basis of a credible claim to refugee status (see backgrounder #2).

In his decision, Judge Jerome found that the policy directives and criteria for officers conducting the humanitarian and compassionate review were too narrow and restricted their discretion. He ordered a full and fair interview of the humanitarian and compassionate considerations in accordance with the law and the duty of fairness.

"We will implement Mr. Justice Jerome's decision immediately," said Minister McDougall. "The new guidelines that I have announced emphasize flexibility and appropriate consideration of individual cases."

"The clearance system is now under control. It is operating as it is supposed to operate," continued the Minister. "Now it is up to all those involved in the system -- our own officials, members of the Immigration and Refugee Board, adjudicators, and legal counsel -- to get on with the job."

(See attached backgrounders)

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CH
MI
-R61

For release

Date

90-5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BASE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ANNOUNCED FOR SUMMERSIDE

SUMMERSIDE -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall announced today that a locally controlled corporation will be established to take over the assets of the Canadian Forces Base at Summerside.

Mrs. McDougall emphasized that the federal government remains fully committed to assisting the community of Summerside in its redevelopment efforts. "I want to restate the Prime Minister's commitment of last December that there will be a direct federal presence in the Summerside area. This is a key element of the three-pronged strategy for the redevelopment of Summerside that includes a federal presence; private sector initiative and substantial community involvement," Mrs. McDougall said.

The Development Corporation will be the vehicle by which new uses for the Summerside base will be sought out and developed.



"The base facilities are in excellent condition and are well-suited to house a variety of industrial and commercial activities. The Development Corporation will provide a good business-like foundation for the redevelopment of the Summerside area by providing potential users with a clear indication of the nature and management of these assets", said Mrs. McDougall.

An interim management for the corporation will be appointed to negotiate with prospective tenants. A number of major, or "anchor" tenants have been identified and negotiations will proceed through the interim management.

Mrs. McDougall added that Employment and Immigration Canada will provide transitional funding of \$900,000 over the next two years for interim management. The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency will also provide up to \$10 million over the five years following the establishment of the Corporation to cover infrastructure costs of the base while tenants are being brought on board.

"This initiative is one of many that the federal government has been pursuing in order to deal with the expected impact of the Summerside base closure on the P.E.I. economy," noted Mrs. McDougall.

The Board of Directors of the Development Corporation will consist of representatives of the tenants, the management and the community. The federal government will sit on the Board in an observer capacity.

"In addition to the Development Corporation announced today, there have been a number of projects supported in recent months by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), including the announcement of two potato processing plants for the Island. We are also assisting the community with a \$100,000 contract through the Industrial Assistance Service and by designating the area under the Community Futures program. Under this program, funds of up to \$800,000 per year for five years can be spent on various initiatives designed to mitigate the impact of the base closure," added Mrs. McDougall.

Mrs. McDougall said she looks forward to her continuing work with the community in its redevelopment efforts.

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CAI
MI
R21

news release

Date

March 30, 1990

For release

90-06



New Immigration Fees Announced

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Canada today announced increased fees for some immigration services.

As of April 1, 1990, the fee for an application for permanent residence increases from \$125 to \$250. This will affect all categories of immigrants, except business immigrants, who will pay a fee of \$500 for an application for permanent residence. The fee for an application for an employment authorization for temporary work in Canada increases from \$50 to \$75.

Refugees and members of Designated Classes will remain exempt from any fees. The fees for applications for extending visitor status, or certifying a record of landing will not be affected.

Although the new fee schedule comes into effect April 1, those applicants who have made appointments before that date and whose appointments have been scheduled after April 1, will pay the old processing fee.

Similarly, those people who have mailed in applications, post-marked before midnight April 1st, will also be processed under the old fee schedule.

The actual unit cost of processing applications for permanent residence is over \$1000 per family unit, while the cost of processing employment authorizations is over \$200 per individual.

Fees for some immigration services were introduced in 1986.

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For Information:

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Carolyn Hackland, Public Affairs (819) 953-0910

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Amendments to Immigration Cost Recovery Program

Q.1 What are the fee increases and who do they affect?

A.1 Effective April 1, 1990, it is proposed to change the current fee structure for specific Immigration services. Firstly, the applicable fee for the processing of an Application for Permanent Residence would be raised to \$250, from the previous \$125 for all categories except the Business Class, which would be raised to \$500. Secondly, the fees applicable for the processing of Employment Authorizations would be increased from the previous \$50 for an individual to \$75 and the group fee (for 2-14 persons) increased to \$150 from the previous \$75.

Q.2 Why are such people as Family Class applicants going to have to pay what amounts to double the fee to come to Canada?

A.2 First of all, the fee is applied per family unit, not for each member of the family. Also, the fact is that the processing of a Family Class applicant actually costs an average of \$1,000. The increase will help to close this processing cost/revenue gap, but still falls short of covering the total processing cost. In the Family Class the fee is paid by the sponsor in Canada, not the applicant.

Q.3 If that's the case, why not bring the fee up to the cost level while you're at it?

A.3 The fee increase is designed to help close the gap between costs and revenues, and makes sense given the government's commitment to expenditure reduction. But a more substantial increase to more closely reflect true costs could cause undue hardship on applicants. As it is, the increases as put forward in the amendment should be in reach of applicants.

Q.4 Why are Business Category Independent Immigrants having to pay so much more? In their case, the increase is four times more.

A.4 Again, it's a reflection of cost. Because more detailed assessments of these particular immigrants are required, the cost of processing their applications averages \$1,525 each. Again, the increase only helps close the gap, and since these immigrants generally profit directly in Canada, the increased fee should be within their reach.

Q.5 What about Refugees? Surely they won't have to pay to come to Canada.

A.5 Refugees and Designated Classes processed abroad for resettlement to Canada remain exempt from fees. So are refugee claimants found to have credible basis under Canada's new Refugee Determination system after January 1, 1989. It should be noted, however, that other persons who apply for permanent residence from within Canada are required to pay the permanent residence application fee, and accordingly, the increase.

Q.6 What about people in the backlog who made refugee claims before January 1, 1989?

A.6 Another regulatory amendment has been passed that requires persons in the refugee claims backlog to pay the application for permanent residence fee upon acceptance as having met the criteria for the program. Inasmuch as they have to demonstrate self-sufficiency under the Immigration Act before being accepted as permanent residents, the increased fee should not cause undue hardship especially since backlog claimants were given permission to work more than a year ago.

Q.7 In terms of charging for Immigration services, how does Canada compare to other countries?

A.7 Other major immigrant receiving countries such as the United States and Australia have been charging for similar services for some time. The increased fees that Canada would charge simply bring us in line with these countries.

Q.8 It is stated in Immigration publications that these fees are not refundable. Does this mean that if a person's application isn't accepted, he still has to pay the fee? That seems unfair.

A.8 The fee is charged to help defray the cost of processing an application. This cost would be caused in assessing the application whether the result is favourable to the applicant or not. Accordingly, the fee is non-refundable. The fact that paying the fee is no guarantee of a favourable result is explained to the applicant when he begins the process. And indeed, it is explained in our literature.

Q.9 Just how much revenue will these changes bring to the government?

A.9 Over the course of the first fiscal year, 1990-91, additional revenue of approximately \$25 million is expected, effectively doubling revenue received under cost recovery during 1988-1989.

Q.10 What about other Immigration services? Is this just the beginning?

A.10 Plans call for the consideration of expansion of cost recovery in future fiscal years. The identification of other Immigration areas for imposition of fees in the longer term will be studied. Discussions with a variety of stakeholders and partners in the Immigration Program will be held before any further amendments are put forward.

Q.11 Just what is the current Immigration budget?

A.11 The estimated 1989-90 Immigration budget in Canada and abroad is \$320 million.

Q.12 You've mentioned first year revenue of \$25 million. Are the provinces going to get a portion of this money?

A.12 At the moment, the amendments put forward concerning fees increases for Immigration services relate to federal processing only.

Q.13. What will happen to those people who have already made an application to immigrate and are waiting to be processed -- will they have to pay an additional fee for an application once the new rate structure goes into effect?

A. 13 Although the new fee schedule goes into effect April 1, those applicants who have made appointments before that date and whose appointments have been scheduled after April 1 will pay the old processing fee. Similarly, those people who have mailed in applications, post-marked before midnight April 1st will also be processed under the old fee schedule.

Q.14 Are your offices in Canada and your posts abroad geared up for this fee structure change?

A.14 Cost Recovery generally has been in place since 1986 at CICs in Canada and visa offices abroad. We anticipate no problems in applying the revised fee structure.



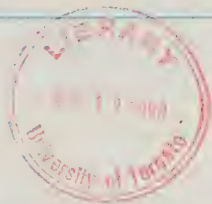
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-R21

For release

Date

April 2, 1990

90-07



CANADA TO JOIN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today met with Mr. James N. Purcell Jr., Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), to announce Canada's intent to join the organization. Canada's application to become a member State will be considered at the next session of the IOM Council in May 1990.

"This new association with IOM," said McDougall, "will benefit refugees destined for Canada and contribute to improved immigrant services. The IOM will be able to provide valuable assistance in the processing of applications abroad and in arranging more economical transportation to Canada."

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The International Organization for Migration, formerly the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM), was established in 1951 to ensure the orderly migration of persons in need of international migration services. To meet this objective, the organization handles the planned migration of nationals to meet specific needs of emigration and immigration countries; and the organized transfer of refugees, displaced persons and other individuals compelled to leave their homeland.

IOM provides these services as well as language training and cultural orientation to facilitate integration in the receiving country, immigration processing and medical examinations to meet the requirements of the countries of destination. Furthermore, IOM provides an excellent international forum for the study and discussion of different aspects of international migration.

IOM and Canada have traditionally cooperated closely. In 1988, for example, IOM facilitated the movement of 23,000 refugees and migrants to Canada.

During the 1980's, as immigration issues became more complex, Canada found it beneficial to rely on IOM's services. It became clear that the Canadian Government and Canadian groups involved in immigration would benefit greatly from Canada becoming a member of IOM.

"Increased orientation services," the Minister added, "will help immigrants adapt to Canadian society. Savings will also accrue to sponsoring groups in Canada. In addition, Canada will enjoy lower rates for all IOM services."

Mr. Purcell welcomed Canada's announcement of intent, noting that "Governments, international organizations and non-governmental entities have different perspectives and roles to play in the migration process. What is increasingly clear, however, is that we must work together more closely to ensure that the changes brought about by migration are for the better."

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For release

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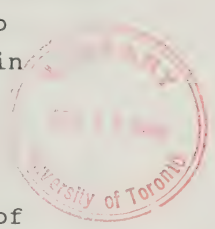
April 2, 1990
90-08

\$5 million grant to aid Vietnamese boat people

OTTAWA - Employment and Immigration Minister the Hon. Barbara McDougall today announced that Canada would make a \$5 million grant to help the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) in its efforts to resolve the situation of Vietnamese boat people in Southeast Asia.

"The \$5 million grant is another Canadian initiative in support of the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) adopted last June at the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees," Mrs. McDougall said. Canada is already a major participant in the CPA, with a commitment to the resettlement of 16,000 Southeast Asian refugees from regional temporary asylum countries to Canada over three years.

Today's grant is made to support the work of the UNHCR in the following areas: legal help, including appeals, for those making refugee claims in Southeast Asia; the promotion of voluntary repatriation of non-refugees to Vietnam; and reintegration and monitoring of those returning.



Noting that the problems facing asylum seekers and governments that grant asylum are extremely complex, the Minister reiterated Canada's support of the Comprehensive Plan of Action, and stated that it was only through a variety of measures that the international effort led by the United Nations could succeed.

"Canada already has one of the largest and best developed resettlement programs for Indochinese refugees, and is a major financial contributor to the work of the UNHCR.

"Nevertheless, I believe that the situation is so serious that exceptional action is needed. The grant I am announcing today will not only bring badly needed direct financial help to the UNHCR, it should also encourage the other CPA partners to follow through on their commitments," Mrs. McDougall said.

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For release

Date

April 3, 1990

90-09

OTTAWA -- Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, today announced the immediate implementation of a visa requirement for some passengers transiting through Mirabel and Gander airports en route to other destinations.

The Minister said that, "This necessary measure enables us to control abuse and maintain the integrity of the Canadian immigration program. This includes our overseas refugee program which remains open to anyone who fears persecution."

Previously, visas were not required of passengers on flights stopping in Canada solely for the purpose of refuelling. In the first three months of 1990, over 2,000 individuals used this exemption to claim refugee status in Gander. Now, anyone on a refuelling flight who normally requires a visa to visit Canada will need a visa on these flights. The only exception will be nationals of the airline's home country. Legitimate travellers can obtain these visas at any Canadian diplomatic or consular mission abroad.



Mrs. McDougall concluded by saying,
"I recognize the demands on the province of
Newfoundland in responding to these totally
unpredictable developments in Eastern Europe. We will
continue to work closely with the province to expedite
the processing of claims."

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

Government
Publications

For release

Date

May 8, 1990

90-10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration (EIC), announced today the allocation of \$120,000 to investigate the future human resource requirements of the commercial printing industry in Canada.

"We need an up-to-date understanding of the new skill and training requirements that influence this most important industry that employs over 70,000 workers and involves more than \$6 billion in sales each year," said Mrs. McDougall.

"Major technological advances in commercial printing demand that the industry develop new approaches and skills. We want the people now on the job to acquire the new skills they need to keep them working."

"And we also want to ensure that the industry has appropriate training programs in place to fill its future needs. This project will benefit everyone involved in the industry by helping us identify the course of action we should take," said Mrs. McDougall.

The study is being initiated at the request of the Canadian Printing Industries Association, and will be carried out by the Sector Studies Directorate of EIC.

A steering committee made up of employers, unions and educational institutions has been established to advise those who conduct the human resource research effort. The committee will help focus the research issues and direct surveys of the industry's training requirements.

Similar studies of other industrial sectors have produced policy initiatives that have helped keep these industries up-to-date and competitive.

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For release

Date May 15, 1990
90-11

DECIMA SURVEY OF THE LABOUR FORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
RELEASED BY EIC



OTTAWA.....Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, today released a Decima Research study prepared for the department. The study of Canadian attitudes toward the Labour Force Development Strategy shows that 66 per cent of Canadians support the government's plan to shift resources from Unemployment Insurance benefits to increased job training.

"This survey confirms public support of the government's initiative to change the UI program and the public's awareness of the urgent need to up-grade and enhance training opportunities for all Canadians," the Minister stated.

The government introduced Bill C-21, an Act to Amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, on June 1, 1989, which is being delayed by Liberal Senators.

The Minister added that "Liberal members of the Senate should listen to the two thirds of Canadians who support the LFDS and pass C-21, so we can get on with the implementation the Labour Force Development Strategy for the benefit of all Canadians."

Decima Research carried out this study between March 1 and March 10, 1990, contacting 1500 Canadians and is considered to be accurate ± 3.2 per cent, 95 out of 100 times. (Highlights of the report are attached.)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- A majority of Canadians, 53 per cent, are aware that changes are being proposed to the Unemployment Insurance program;
- Two-thirds of the population support the government's plan to shift resources into training programs;
- Canadians believe the UI program is working well or very well. This is not significantly different from the approval rating of 52 per cent achieved last year;
- Nearly one-half of Canadians recognize that the government is planning to spend more money in the area of training;
- Compared to last year's figures, 11 per cent more Canadians feel that Canada has a less skilled workforce than it's main competitors (38 per cent in 1990 versus 27 per cent in 1989);
- In terms of the individual, the motivating factor in support of increased training is the ability to enhance their position in the job market;
- Fifty per cent of the public believes it would be difficult to find a job of similar quality in their region should they lose their current job;
- Canadians want flexible job training programs, i.e., individuals should have some say in the way training is provided;
- Employers, the federal government and the provincial government were all seen as having a responsibility to fund skills training programs.

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-R21

Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration



Minister of Employment
and Immigration

Pour publication

Date

le 15 mai 1990

90-11



Publication par EIC de l'étude du centre de recherches Decima sur la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'oeuvre

M^{me} Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a rendu publique aujourd'hui l'étude menée par le Centre de recherches Decima pour le compte du Ministère. Cette étude, qui porte sur l'opinion des Canadiens à l'égard de la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'oeuvre, démontre que 66 p. 100 d'entre eux appuient le plan du gouvernement de puiser des fonds dans le Régime d'assurance-chômage pour les affecter aux programmes de formation professionnelle.

«Cette étude confirme l'appui du public au projet du gouvernement de modifier le Régime d'assurance-chômage, et montre que est les Canadiens sont conscients de l'urgence d'améliorer et d'accroître la formation pour tous les Canadiens», a indiqué la Ministre.

Le gouvernement a déposé, le 1^{er} juin 1989, le projet de loi C-21, qui vise à amender la Loi sur l'assurance-chômage et dont l'adoption est actuellement retardée par les sénateurs libéraux.

La Ministre a ajouté : «Les membres libéraux du Sénat devraient tenir compte de l'appui des deux tiers des Canadiens à l'égard de la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'oeuvre et adopter le projet de loi C-21, afin que nous puissions mettre en oeuvre cette stratégie, qui profitera à tous les Canadiens.»

Le Centre de recherches Decima a effectué cette étude entre le 1^{er} et le 10 mars 1990 auprès de 1 500 Canadiens et l'on considère ses résultats comme exacts ($\pm 3,2$ p. 100, 95 fois sur 100). Les grandes lignes du rapport sont jointes à la présente.

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GRANDES LIGNES

- Une majorité de Canadiens, c'est-à-dire 53 p. 100, sont au courant des changements proposés au Régime d'assurance-chômage.
- Les deux tiers de la population appuient le plan du gouvernement fédéral d'affecter des ressources à des programmes de formation.
- Les Canadiens croient que le Régime d'assurance-chômage fonctionne bien ou très bien. Ce taux de satisfaction diffère peu de celui de l'an dernier, qui était de 52 p. 100.
- Près de la moitié des Canadiens reconnaissent que le gouvernement a l'intention de dépenser davantage pour la formation.
- Les Canadiens sont 11 p. 100 de plus que l'an dernier à penser que le Canada dispose d'une main-d'oeuvre moins qualifiée que ses principaux concurrents (38 p. 100 en 1990 par rapport à 27 p. 100 en 1989).
- Au niveau individuel, le facteur qui motive l'appui à une formation accrue est la possibilité d'occuper une place plus enviable sur le marché du travail.
- Cinquante pour cent des Canadiens croient qu'il leur serait difficile de trouver un emploi équivalant à celui qu'ils occupent déjà dans leur région s'ils devenaient chômeurs.
- Les Canadiens veulent des programmes de formation professionnelle souples, c'est-à-dire que tous aient leur mot à dire quant à la façon dont la formation est assurée.
- Les employeurs, le gouvernement fédéral et les gouvernements provinciaux sont tous perçus comme ayant la responsabilité de financer les programmes de formation professionnelle.



For release

Date

MAY 28, 1990

90 - 12

TORONTO -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall announced a \$ 15 million Language and Orientation Initiative today to help immigrants and refugees, particularly women, adjust to life in Canada as well as to acquire language training.

This new initiative will enhance opportunities for language training and orientation given to immigrants and refugees both overseas and after they arrive in Canada. It will also provide second language instruction for women immigrants already working.

"Not being able to speak English or French limits the successful integration of immigrants. Lack of these language skills is a particular concern of immigrant women," Mrs. McDougall said. "This additional funding will enable a larger number of newcomers to participate more fully in Canadian society."



The Settlement Language Program (SLP), which builds on the successful pilot projects that have been operating since 1986 across Canada, has become a permanent program with a budget of \$7 million; \$6 million of which will support language training offered in Canada. In addition, \$1 million is earmarked for language training to refugees in camps abroad awaiting immigrant processing.

The Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program (ISAP) is receiving \$1 million to help non-governmental organizations (NGOs) reach immigrants who may not be aware of the services available to them.

In addition, \$2 million is allocated for the preparation of orientation materials regarding life in Canada, both for overseas and in-Canada usage.

Funds will also support on-the-job language, literacy and numeracy training for immigrants through the Language at Work (LAW) option of the Canadian Jobs Strategy's Skill Investment Program - \$5 million in this initial year and \$15 million in following years.

The initiative enhances the language training programs already in place through the Canadian Jobs Strategy.

"Employers should look on this program as an investment because it will eventually enable these immigrants to become more productive workers," Mrs. McDougall said. "These programs combined, will assist immigrants and refugees to become active participants of Canadian society."

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Canadian Jobs Strategy
Georges Latour (819) 953-1810

BACKGROUNDER

The inability to speak English or French and a lack of orientation to the Canadian way of life limit the capacity of many immigrants, particularly women, to fully participate in society. They sometimes have to take low-paying jobs because they cannot work in jobs which match their qualifications or acquire training to make their qualifications fit the Canadian labour-market's requirements. This results in the immigrants' being isolated from the social and cultural realities of Canadian life.

The Language and Orientation Initiative announced by the federal government will help immigrants and refugees gain a better understanding of Canada and acquire the language skills they need to participate in society. This initiative will provide language training and orientation to some immigrants' overseas; to some immigrants after they arrive in Canada; and to some immigrants who have been in Canada and working without a knowledge of English or French for some time.

In the initiative, \$7 million is be earmarked to the Settlement Language Program (SLP) which will become a permanent feature of settlement programming. Of this amount, \$6 million will be used to help people in Canada learn language and basic survival skills even though they are not entering the paid workforce. Language training will incorporate the basics of day-to-day living, including how to shop, bank and use local transportation. Most of this instruction will be provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and it is expected this program will be particularly useful for women. The remaining \$1 million in SLP funding will provide language training and orientation for refugees while they are awaiting immigrant processing to come to Canada.

An additional \$1 million will bolster the successful Immigration Settlement and Adaptation Program (ISAP), which currently helps NGOs provide settlement services to newcomers. Unfortunately, many family class immigrants and dependants of independent immigrants who arrive in Canada are unable to speak English or French; they lead an isolated existence and thus are unaware of the assistance available in their community and through government departments and NGOs. This funding will enable these organizations to reach out to immigrants who may otherwise not gain access to these services.

As well, \$2 million will go towards the development of training and orientation packages for use by External Affairs staff and NGO workers providing counselling services to immigrants overseas and in Canada. This will ensure that immigrants, regardless of where they settle in Canada, will receive the same nationally relevant, essential information about life in this country. Within this same \$2 million, Canada will also meet costs associated with our membership in the International Organization for Migration.

Another element in the initiative is the Language at Work (LAW) program, which teaches language, literacy and numeracy skills to immigrants and refugees on the worksite \$5 million during this initial year with the budget increasing to \$15 million in subsequent years.

Immigrant working women are sometimes relegated to low-paying jobs, often below their capabilities, because they lack knowledge of English or French. Greater fluency would increase company productivity, improve worksite safety and morale, and assist employers in benefitting from training and life experiences obtained in other countries. Funding will cover the costs of assessing employees' needs, course development, materials, and instructors' wages.

De plus, deux millions de dollars seront consacrés à l'élaboration de programmes de formation et d'orientation à l'intention du personnel des Affaires extérieures et des travailleurs des ONG qui offrent des services de counselling aux immigrants à l'étranger et au Canada. Grâce à ces fonds, les immigrants quel que soit l'endroit où ils s'établissent au Canada, recevront les mêmes renseignements essentiels concernant le mode de vie canadien. Ces fonds permettront également au Canada d'assumer les coûts liés à son adhésion à l'Organisation internationale pour les migrations.

Le programme d'apprentissage de la langue en milieu de travail est un autre élément des mesures annoncées. Il s'agit d'un programme de cours de langue, d'alphabétisation et d'arithmétique s'adressant aux immigrants et aux réfugiés, en milieu de travail, auquel seront consacrés cinq millions de dollars pour la première année et 15 millions de dollars pour les années subséquentes.

Les immigrantes en milieu de travail sont parfois reléguées dans des emplois peu rémunérateurs, qui ne correspondent pas à leurs compétences, parce qu'elles ne parlent ni le français ni l'anglais. Si celles-ci parlaient mieux l'une ou l'autre langue, les employeurs pourraient accroître la productivité de leurs entreprises et améliorer la sécurité sur les lieux de travail ainsi que le moral des effectifs et profiter de la formation et de l'expérience que les immigrantes ont acquises à l'étranger. Les fonds couvriront les frais que représentent l'évaluation des besoins des employés, l'élaboration des cours et des documents ainsi que le salaire des moniteurs.

DOCUMENT D'INFORMATION

Le fait de ne parler ni l'anglais ni l'anglais et de n'avoir aucune initiation au mode de vie canadien limite la capacité de nombreux immigrants, notamment les femmes, de s'intégrer pleinement à la société canadienne. Ils sont parfois forcés d'occuper des emplois peu rémunérateurs puisqu'ils ne peuvent recevoir la formation voulue ni occuper des emplois correspondants à leurs qualifications. Les immigrants se trouvent donc coupés de la réalité sociale et culturelle du Canada.

Les mesures relatives aux cours de langue et aux services d'orientation annoncées par le gouvernement fédéral permettront d'aider les immigrants et les réfugiés à mieux connaître le Canada et à apprendre suffisamment la langue pour pouvoir s'intégrer pleinement à la société. Les fonds serviront à financer des cours de langue et des services d'orientation à l'étranger et après l'arrivée des immigrants au Canada, même si ceux-ci ont déjà commencé à y travailler sans connaître l'anglais ni le français.

Sept millions de dollars seront affectés au programme de cours de langue pour les immigrants (PCLI) qui deviendra un élément permanent des programmes d'aide à l'établissement. De ce montant, six millions serviront à financer des cours de langue et de préparation à la vie quotidienne s'adressant à des personnes qui se trouvent déjà au Canada, même si celles-ci ne vont pas sur le marché du travail. Les cours de langue viseront également l'acquisition de connaissances pratiques élémentaires, notamment comment faire ses achats, traiter avec une banque et utiliser les transports locaux. La plus grande partie de ces cours, qui seront donnés par des organismes non-gouvernementaux (ONG), devraient être particulièrement utiles aux femmes. Le million restant servira à financer les cours de langue et les services d'orientation s'adressant aux réfugiés qui attendent que soit traitée leur demande pour venir au Canada.

Un million de dollars sera également utilisé pour renforcer le programme d'établissement et d'adaptation des immigrants (PEAI) qui produit de bons résultats et qui aide les immigrants. Malheureusement, bon nombre des immigrants de la catégorie de la famille et des personnes à la charge des immigrants indépendants arrivent au Canada sans parler ni le français ni l'anglais. Comme ils mènent une existence isolée, ils ne connaissent pas les services que peuvent leur offrir le gouvernement et les ONG. Ces fonds aideront ces organismes à étendre leurs services aux immigrants qui pourraient ne pas autrement y avoir accès.

Ces mesures viennent étayer les programmes de cours de langue déjà offerts dans le cadre de la planification de l'emploi.

"Les employeurs devraient considérer ce programme comme un investissement car il aidera ces immigrants à devenir des travailleurs plus productifs, a ajouté Mme McDougall. Ces programmes aideront les immigrants et les réfugiés à devenir des membres actifs de la société canadienne".

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Le programme de cours de langue pour les immigrants (PCLI) dans le cadre duquel ont été réalisés avec succès des projets pilotes d'un bout à l'autre du Canada depuis 1986, est devenu un programme permanent ayant un budget de sept millions de dollars. De ce montant, six millions seront consacrés aux cours de langue offerts au Canada. De plus, un montant d'un million de dollars est affecté aux cours de langue donnés aux réfugiés qui se trouvent dans des camps et qui attendent que soit traitée leur demande.

Dans le cadre du programme d'établissement et d'adaptation des immigrants (PBAI), un autre montant d'un million de dollars servira à aider les organismes nongouvernementaux (ONG) à offrir aux immigrants des services dont ceux-ci ne connaissent peut-être pas l'existence.

En outre, deux millions de dollars sont consacrés à la préparation de documents d'orientation sur la société canadienne, qui seront utilisés tant à l'étranger qu'au Canada.

Des montants de cinq millions de dollars, pour la première année, et de 15 millions de dollars pour les années subséquentes seront affectés au cours de langue, d'alphabetisation et d'arithmétique offerts aux immigrants dans le cadre de l'option Apprentissage de langue en milieu de travail du programme Acquisition de compétences, une des composantes de la planification de l'emploi.



Pour publication

LE 28 MAI 1990

90-12

TORONTO -- Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui des mesures auxquelles seront affectés 15 millions de dollars visant à aider les immigrants et les réfugiés, notamment les femmes, à s'adapter à la vie au Canada et à suivre des cours de langue.

Ces nouvelles mesures permettront d'offrir un plus grand nombre de cours de langue et de services d'orientation aux immigrants et aux réfugiés à l'étranger et au Canada. Elles permettront également de donner des cours de langue aux immigrants qui occupent déjà un emploi.

"Le fait de ne parler ni le français ni l'anglais est un obstacle certain à une bonne intégration des immigrants. La connaissance insuffisante de la langue constitue l'un des problèmes auxquels font face les immigrantes, a fait observer Mme McDougall. Grâce à ces fonds supplémentaires, un plus grand nombre de nouveaux arrivants pourront mieux s'intégrer à la société canadienne".



For release

Date June 11, 1990
90-13

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Winners of merit awards for employment equity

HULL, QUEBEC -- Minister of State for Employment and Immigration, M^{me} Monique Vézina, presented merit awards for employment equity under the Federal Contractors Program to Carleton University and Maritime Paper Products Ltd.

The Federal Contractors Program has been in place since October 1986. There has been progress due to the special efforts made, over and above those required by the employment equity work plan, by several Canadian organizations.

In recognition of these special efforts and outstanding achievement by organizations in moving toward a more representative work force, the Federal Contractors Program will be granting merit awards on an annual basis.

Presenting the award statuettes designed by David General, Canadian Indian artist from the Six Nations Indian Reserve of Southern Ontario, Mme Vézina stated, "Carleton University is undoubtedly an employment equity role model for all the federal government's contractual partners." Carleton University stands out especially for recognizing the unique abilities of individuals in the target groups and taking action to further their careers. "The University, a strong force for social change, is making real efforts to become part of the community by ensuring that its many faces are reflected in its staff," the Minister added.

In commenting on the award to Maritime Paper Products Ltd., the Minister pointed out that she was particularly pleased with the performance of this private company. Despite its limited resources, it has made special efforts to promote the training and advancement of its female employees. The Minister added, "The efforts of Maritime Paper Products are doubly appreciated because the company has made a firm commitment to work towards equitable representation and has not allowed itself to stray from its goal by alleging special socio-economic circumstances."

Mme Vézina also awarded certificates of honourable mention to 13 companies that will soon attain the objective of fair representation of the four designated groups. The Minister indicated, "The honourable mentions are a special way of acknowledging the efforts of our contractual partners and encouraging them to actively pursue this course."

David General was commissioned by Employment and Immigration Canada to design and create a trophy for the Merit Award Program. The trophy, titled "Vision", is made of Canadian bronze. The silhouette of the trophy has multiple facets and creates a sensation of upward movement.

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

June 19, 1990
90-14

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall has endorsed five principles which will become the foundation for a new working partnership between Aboriginal communities and Employment and Immigration Canada.

"Demographic trends indicate that Aboriginal people have a large and growing stake in the Government's labour market strategy" said Mrs. McDougall.

"The five partnership principles provide a good starting point. It is now time to find meaningful and creative ways to implement these principles," urged Mrs. McDougall.

"You must also ensure in the design of partnership mechanisms that equity needs of groups, such as Aboriginal women within your communities, will be met," added the Minister.

"Dialogue must give way to action as soon as possible," said Mrs. McDougall. However, the pace of implementation of the partnership principles must be sensitive to the varying priorities and the institutional capacities of Aboriginal communities in different parts of Canada.

The principles were developed by the Aboriginal Employment and Training Working Group (AETWG).

The Minister made her remarks at the opening session of AETWG's second round of meetings in Ottawa last week.

AETWG is made up of representatives from six national Aboriginal organizations, representatives from eight regional Aboriginal training groups and officials from both national and regional headquarters of Employment and Immigration Canada.

The six national Aboriginal organizations comprise: the Assembly of First Nations, the Native Council of Canada, the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, the

Native Women's Association of Canada, the Métis National Council and the National Association of Friendship Centres.

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Backgrounder

PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

In recognition of Employment and Immigration Canada's (EIC) mandate to facilitate adjustments, required for the effective functioning of the Canadian labour market, and in recognition of the benefits for all Aboriginal peoples, it is the objective of Aboriginal people and EIC to establish an effective partnership to invest in and develop a trained Aboriginal labour force for partnership in unique Aboriginal labour markets and the broader Canadian labour market.

This partnership is based on the following five principles:

1. **Consultation Process and Local Control of Decision Making**

That this partnership be solidified through the establishment of national, regional and local consultation/management boards to ensure that the needs and priorities of the Aboriginal community are addressed and are reflected in the design, development and implementation of EIC policies that effect them.

2. **Delivery Mechanisms**

That employment and training programs and services be managed, operated, conducted and arranged through Aboriginal infrastructures.

3. **Funding Mechanisms and Institutional Development Capacity**

That a funding mechanism be developed which recognizes the planning and operational needs of Aboriginal delivery machinery, and develops a capacity as described above, reflecting the level of need in Aboriginal communities. Such a mechanism could be based on existing successful models.

4. **Employment Equity**

That EIC aggressively undertake pro-active measures to improve recruitment, training and employment of Aboriginal people both internally and externally to EIC.

5. **Eligibility for Programs and Services**

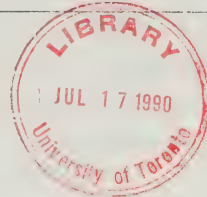
That, consistent with the principles enunciated above, the Aboriginal delivery machinery be given the discretion to determine a person's eligibility for programs and services, and that, more generally, there be a reliance on counselling for determining eligibility, rather than on strict eligibility criteria as in the past.



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- R21

For release

Date July 5, 1990
90-16
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Funding of three million dollars under the Canadian Jobs Strategy will provide 101 physically challenged adults with computer-based training to help them attain meaningful employment.

The three-year special project Job Entry for Severely Employment Disadvantaged was announced by Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall.

"This project offers training that will help participants qualify for a number of jobs, from data-entry to highly technical computer programming," Minister McDougall said.

Participants will be recruited for intensive training programs taking place in Vancouver, Regina, Ottawa-Hull, and Fredericton.

The Neil Squire Foundation is sponsoring the project which will combine theoretical instruction with practical, on-the-job experience. Participants will be assessed individually to determine interests, aptitudes, academic levels, physical capacities and vocational awareness.

Work placements will be determined on the basis of these evaluations. Initially, participants will be assisted by job coaches and will receive training in life skills, social skills, and Vocational/Educational Training and the various facets of the position itself.

"The Neil Squire Foundation understands and emphasizes the skills training which will allow participants to do satisfying work at a living wage," Minister McDougall added.

One of the objectives of the Job Entry program is to assist people facing significant barriers to finding and maintaining employment. It provides employment preparation and life skills guidance to help them become ready for work. Participants may be eligible for financial support while receiving training and on-the-job experience.

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For release

July 27, 1990
90-19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minister of Employment and Immigration, Barbara McDougall, said today that additional funding of \$110 million above 1990 budgetted amounts has been injected this year into training programs for Unemployment Insurance claimants.

The Minister said in a statement: "There has been a sharp increase in demand for training that could have been accommodated had new legislation on Unemployment Insurance been passed. Without those resources, the demand has focussed on existing programs and we have had to take extraordinary measures to alleviate the pressure."

The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission received approval from Treasury Board to raise spending levels under Section 26 of the UI Act for developmental training to \$335 million, \$80 million more than had been allocated for 1990-91. The amount for Section 24 for work-sharing doubled to \$60 million from \$30 million.



Changes in the Unemployment Insurance legislation would have provided authority for adding \$800 million to funds allocated for training Canadians. Bill C-21, however, is being held up by the Senate.

"We foresaw the growing demand for training," Mrs. McDougall said. "We provided for it but the Bill needs Senate approval. In the meantime, we have ensured that our existing commitments for training have been met."

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BACKGROUNDER

Developmental uses of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Act endorse and recognize the benefit of maintaining employment during a temporary slowdown through Work Sharing, and of providing eligible claimants with the opportunity to pursue skill and occupational training.

Section 24 of the UI Act allows payment of benefits to claimants under an approved Work Sharing agreement between an employer and workers.

Section 26 of the UI Act allows payment of benefits to claimants who are referred to approved training courses.

There has been an unexpected increase in the demand for training in anticipation of the more flexible arrangements and the doubling of funds available for training in future years, as announced in the Labour Force Development Strategy in April 1989. There has also been a substantial increase in the the number of persons indicating a desire to undertake training as a feepayer. Under this option, individuals arrange and purchase their own training for occupational skills in demand.

The Canadian Jobs Strategy provides Canadians with a unique and adaptable framework for skill development and meaningful employment, and offers a variety of program resources to help those individuals, sectors and regions most in need.

Section 24:

Expenditures for 1988: \$16.8 million

Expenditures for 1989: \$21.1 million

Expenditure ceiling for 1990: \$60 million

Participants in 1988: 31,282

Participants in 1989: 37,487

Layoffs averted in 1988: 12,813

Layoffs averted in 1989: 16,493

Section 26:

Expenditures for 1988: \$238.2 million

Expenditures for 1989: \$269 million

Expenditure ceiling for 1990: \$335 million

Participants in 1988: 116,290

Participants in 1989: 132,991

Canadian Jobs Strategy

Expenditures for all programs in 1989-90: \$1.6 billion

Expenditures for all programs forecasted for 1990-91:
\$1.6 billion

Minister of Employment
and ImmigrationMinistre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date August 6, 1990

90-20



Visitor Visas for Kenyans and Argentines

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced the immediate implementation of a visitor visa requirement for citizens of Kenya and Argentina.

"Over the last 18 months" said the Minister, "there has been growing abuse of Kenyan and Argentine passports by citizens of many countries. They illegally acquire the passports of these countries in order to avail themselves of the visa-free entry privileges Canada had previously accorded citizens of Kenya and Argentina. Given the trends we have experienced, we can anticipate growing abuse".

"In addition, we know that forged Argentine passports of an unprecedented quality are being sold in Hong Kong. We have already received several alerts this year about people using fraudulent Argentine passports to come to Canada. Furthermore, Argentines now constitute the largest group of nationals from visa-exempt countries claiming refugee status in Canada.

"The mounting abuse of these passports and the inability of issuing authorities to curb this abuse required that we remove the visa exemption," said the Minister. Mrs McDougall went on to explain that steps will be taken to ensure prompt and efficient visitor visa service to Kenyans and Argentines wishing to come to Canada for legitimate purposes.

The Minister concluded by affirming her intention to see Canada's immigration program effectively managed. "We must ensure that our laws are respected. It is only in this way that we can achieve our objectives and maintain a diverse immigration program that all can accept and from which so many can continue to benefit".

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For more information:

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

Government
Publications

For release



Date

August 17, 1990

90-21

MINISTER ANNOUNCES NEW IMMIGRATION POLICY FOR EASTERN EUROPE

OTTAWA -- Employment and Immigration Minister the Honourable Barbara McDougall today announced that Canada will be instituting normal immigration processing for citizens of the USSR and Eastern Europe beginning September 4, 1990.

On that date, Canadian Embassies within the USSR and Eastern Europe will begin processing applications for selected worker and other Independent immigration categories -- in addition to current Family Class and Assisted Relative processing -- and full facilities will be in place as soon as possible in each country.

"The historic changes that have been taking place in the USSR and Eastern Europe have made it possible, for the first time in over 50 years, to establish facilities for a full range of normal immigration processing in this region," said Mrs. McDougall.

"We welcome these momentous changes that will enable us to provide expanded opportunities for family reunification and realistic economic migration within Canada's evolving levels policy," she added.

As part of the move to normal processing, the existing Self-Exiled Persons Designated Class Regulations for Eastern Europeans will be phased out.

"The sweeping reforms we have seen occurring in the region have included the removal or relaxation of the strict exit controls that made it difficult or impossible for most citizens of these countries to emigrate legally. It was this exit control situation, and fears by Eastern Europeans of reprisals if forced to return to their countries, which led to the creation of the Self-Exiled Designated Class.

"The rationale for this Designated Class no longer exists, and processing of Eastern Europeans for resettlement to Canada in this way is no longer appropriate," Mrs. McDougall said, noting that Immigration officials have consulted with the Eastern European community in Canada on today's announced changes.

Transitional provisions will be in place to process the caseload of persons sponsored before the expiry of the Self-Exiled Persons Designated Class on August 31, 1990. Under this category, the government and Canadian private groups have sponsored applications for the immigration of approximately 45,000 Soviets and Eastern Europeans since 1984 -- almost 16,000 in 1989 alone.

After August 31, 1990, Eastern Europeans who are outside their country of origin, and who are unwilling or unable to return, may be considered for immigration to Canada under Canada's humanitarian programs. These applicants, however, must meet the Convention Refugee definition in order to be eligible.

"With our immigration processing facilities in place in the USSR and Eastern Europe, we will be able to tailor our programs to the circumstances in each country. Accordingly, we will be in a better position to respond to any emergencies which might arise in this part of the world," the Minister said.

"Overall, this new approach is a positive response by the government to the far-reaching reforms that have taken place, and are still taking place, in the Eastern European region," Mrs. McDougall said.

An attached backgrounder provides additional details of today's announcement.

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Background

Immigration from the USSR and Eastern Europe

History:

Since the end of the Second World War, Canada has provided a variety of programs to facilitate the immigration of East Europeans fleeing regimes with strict exit controls.

Between 1947 and 1989, over 280,000 refugees and displaced persons from Eastern Europe have found new homes in Canada either as Convention Refugees or members of Designated Classes, or under special humanitarian programs.

Under Canada's Immigration Regulations, there are three Designated Classes: Indochinese (Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos); Political Prisoners and Oppressed Persons (El Salvador, Guatemala and Chile) and Self-Exiled Persons (Eastern Europe, except Yugoslavia, and USSR).

The Self-Exiled Persons Designated Class was implemented in 1979 to help persons who, while not strictly speaking Convention refugees, were in refugee-like situations. Under these regulations, nationals of these countries who are outside Eastern Europe and are unable or unwilling to return can be sponsored for resettlement to Canada either through the annual government sponsored refugee plan or by private groups and organizations.

Since 1983, Canada has resettled some 45,000 self-exiles from Eastern Europe, including nearly 30,000 from Poland alone. In 1989, of some 15,500 refugees and displaced persons resettled in Canada from this region, 80% or over 12,000 were citizens of Poland.

USSR and Eastern Europe Total Landings 1989

<u>Country</u>	<u>DC</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>FC</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>Total</u>
Poland	12,217	26	3037	399	129	15,808
Romania	614	205	815	259	107	2,000
USSR	919	7	163	407	59	1,555
Czech.	798	32	112	24	120	1,086
Hungary	769	0	159	45	26	999
Bulgaria	67	7	10	3	13	100
GDR	5	2	14	18	11	50
Albania	3	0	0	0	0	3
Total	15,392	279	4,310	1,155	465	21,601

DC: Self-Exiled Persons Designated Class (incl. 12,000 privately sponsored, 3,500 gov't sponsored); **CR:** Convention Refugees; **FC:** Family Class; **AR:** Assisted Relatives; **IND:** Other Independents.

With the election of the Solidarity Government in Poland during the summer of 1989, followed by the sweeping changes taking place throughout the USSR and Eastern Europe, the rationale for the Self-Exiled program has disappeared.

Apart from the USSR and Albania, the countries of Eastern Europe have radically changed their travel and exit regulations. Virtually all citizens of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania and the German Democratic Republic can obtain passports and leave or return to their countries without hindrance. It is expected that by the end of this year, the USSR will also have passed legislation allowing its citizens the right to freedom of movement. In addition, Albania has announced its intention to move in this direction.

Canada, in fact, is now the only country which still maintains a large refugee-like resettlement program for East Europeans who are outside their countries of origin. The United States and Australian governments have already terminated their versions of the Self-Exiled program and have moved to regular immigration processing for nationals of these countries.

Phasing out Self-Exiled Designated Class

A cut-off date of August 31, 1990 for sponsorships under the Self-Exiled Persons Designated Class has been added to the existing regulations.

The date establishes a deadline for any new private sponsorships to be received under this Designated Class, and applicants under the government sponsored program must have been selected before this date. By August 31, 1990, it is estimated that some 30,000 persons will have applications in process under this category.

All of these applications will be processed as Self-Exiles through Canadian Immigration visa offices in Western Europe and the U.S. over the next several years under the revised regulations. After August 31, citizens of these countries, including those which maintain some form of exit controls such as the USSR and Albania, will still be able to apply for resettlement as Convention Refugees if they are outside their countries of origin.

Existing Processing

Immigration from the USSR and Eastern Europe under "normal" categories (Family Class, Assisted Relative and Independent) has been low in previous years due to exit controls throughout the region. In 1989, however, a total of approximately 5,000 persons immigrated to Canada from the region, 4,300 of whom were Family

Class applicants sponsored by close relatives in Canada. This total represented an increase under these categories over previous years as exit controls have been loosened.

Effective September 4, 1990, Canadian visa offices inside the USSR and Eastern Europe will commence the transition to normal immigration processing, and full facilities will be in place as soon as practicable, taking into account each country's particular circumstances.

New Program

The start-up of normal immigration processing in the USSR and Eastern Europe will require a transition period of up to a year. Facilities in Embassies for immigration processing such as security and criminal screening will have to be implemented, requiring physical changes in the Embassy buildings. Expansion to full immigration processing will take place in Canadian Embassies in Moscow, Kiev, Budapest, Warsaw, Bucharest, Belgrade and Prague.

It is anticipated that over the fiscal years 1991-95, the transition to normal immigration processing will require a total of some \$28 million and up to 16 new person years for the expansion of Canada's missions in the USSR and Eastern Europe. These resources will be incremental in order that the establishment of the new infrastructures in this region will not be undertaken at the expense of immigration facilities in other world areas.

For humanitarian and logistical reasons, resources will be concentrated initially on expanding the processing of Family Class and Assisted Relative cases. The number of requests for visitor visas has been steadily increasing from this world area; resources will be allocated to this traffic as well.

With the processing of what is anticipated to be a caseload of some 30,000 "self-exiles" filed before the cut-off date of August 31, 1990, plus applications for normal immigration to Canada, it is anticipated that the total flow of immigrants from the USSR and Eastern Europe will be at a level of about 30,000 landings per year in 1991-95.

Europe de l'Est exigera un somme globale d'environ 28 millions de dollars et jusqu'à 16 nouvelles années-personnes. Ces ressources devront s'ajouter aux ressources actuelles pour que la mise en place des nouveaux bureaux dans cette région du monde ne se fasse pas au détriment des bureaux dans d'autres régions.

Pour des raisons pratiques et d'ordre humanitaire, ces ressources serviront d'abord à traiter un plus grand nombre de demandes présentées par des membres des catégories de la famille et des parents aidés. Le nombre de demandes de visa de visiteur présentées dans cette région du monde n'a cessé de croître, et les ressources seront également consacrées au traitement de ces demandes.

Si l'on compte le nombre prévu d'environ 30 000 demandes présentées par des «exilés volontaires» avant la date limite du 31 août 1990, et les demandes normales d'immigration au Canada, on prévoit qu'un nombre global d'environ 30 000 immigrants en provenance de l'URSS et de l'Europe de l'Est seront admis chaque année de 1991 à 1995.

personnes rentrant dans la catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires.

Le 31 août constitue la date limite pour la présentation de nouvelles demandes d'engagement d'aide par des organismes du secteur privé et pour la prise en charge par le gouvernement des demandeurs qui ont été sélectionnés. On prévoit qu'au 31 août 1990, les demandes présentées par quelque 30 000 personnes rentrant dans la catégorie susmentionnée seront à l'étude.

Au cours des prochaines années, les bureaux des visas en Europe de l'Ouest et aux Etats-Unis étudieront ces demandes aux termes des nouvelles dispositions réglementaires. Après la date limite, les citoyens des pays de la région précitée, y compris de pays comme l'URSS et l'Albanie qui restreignent toujours dans une certaine mesure le droit de sortie, pourront toujours solliciter le droit de se rétablir à titre de réfugiés au sens de la Convention, s'ils séjournent à l'extérieur de leur pays d'origine.

Formalités actuelles

Le nombre d'immigrants d'URSS et d'Europe de l'Est rentrant dans des catégories « normales » (de la famille, parents aidés et indépendants) a été faible pendant les dernières années en raison de la restriction du droit de sortie. Toutefois, environ 5 000 personnes de cette région ont immigré au Canada en 1989, dont 4 300 rentraient dans la catégorie de la famille tout en étant parrainées par de proches parents. Il s'agissait d'une augmentation dans toutes les catégories par rapport aux années précédentes qui faisait suite à un assouplissement du contrôle du droit de sortie.

A compter du 4 septembre 1990, les bureaux des visas canadiens en URSS et en Europe de l'Est commenceront à se convertir aux formalités normales d'immigration, et toutes les installations nécessaires seront mises en place dès que possible, en tenant compte de la situation dans chacun de ces pays.

Le nouveau programme

La mise en place des services habituels d'immigration en URSS et en Europe de l'Est exigera une période de transition pouvant aller jusqu'à un an. Il faudra prévoir les installations nécessaires pour des formalités comme le triage sécuritaire et les vérifications judiciaires, donc modifier l'agencement des lieux dans les ambassades. Des bureaux offrant l'ensemble des services d'immigration seront ouverts dans les ambassades du Canada à Moscou, Kiev, Budapest, Varsovie, Bucarest, Belgrade et Prague.

Il est prévu que, pendant les années financières de 1991 à 1995, la mise en place des installations nécessaires pour offrir l'ensemble des services habituels d'immigration en URSS et en

Nombre de ressortissants d'URSS et d'Europe de l'Est ayant obtenu le droit d'établissement en 1989

Pays	EV	RC	CF	PA	IND	TOTAL
Pologne	12 217	26	3 037	399	129	15 808
Roumanie	614	205	815	259	107	2 000
URSS	919	7	163	407	59	1 555
Tchécosl.	798	32	112	24	120	1 086
Hongrie	769	0	159	45	26	999
Bulgarie	67	7	10	3	13	100
RDA	5	2	14	18	11	50
Albanie	3	0	0	0	0	3
15 392	279	4 310	1 155	465	21 601	

EV : Catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires (dont 12 000 pers. paraguayés par le sect. priv., 3 500 pers. par le gouv.); RC : Réfugiés au sens de la Convention; CF : Catégorie de la famille; PA : Parents aidés; IND : Autres immigrants indépendants.

Par suite de l'élection d'un gouvernement de solidarité en Pologne pendant l'été 1989 et des changements radicaux survenus en URSS et en Europe de l'Est, les mesures en faveur des exilés volontaires ont perdu leur raison d'être.

A l'exception de l'Union soviétique et de l'Albanie, les pays de l'Europe de l'Est ont modifié en profondeur leurs règles concernant les voyages et le droit de sortie. A présent, presque tous les citoyens de Pologne, Hongrie, Tchécoslovaquie, Bulgarie, Roumanie et de la République démocratique allemande peuvent obtenir un passeport, quitter leur pays ou y retourner sans entrave. On prévoit que le Parlement soviétique adoptera d'ici la fin de l'année une loi qui permettra à ses citoyens de se déplacer librement. Par ailleurs, les autorités albanaises ont annoncé leur intention de faire de même.

De fait, le Canada est le seul pays qui traite toujours le cas des Européens de l'Est séjournant à l'extérieur de leur pays d'origine à peu près comme s'ils agissaient de réfugiés. Les gouvernements des Etats-Unis et de l'Australie ont déjà aboli leur version du programme en faveur des exilés volontaires et traitent les demandes d'immigration des ressortissants de la région mentionnée de façon normale.

Abolition graduelle de la catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires

Il faut inclure dans le Règlement la date limite du 31 août 1990 en ce qui a trait aux engagements d'aide présentes pour des

Notes d'information

Immigration de l'URSS et de l'Europe de l'Est

Contexte

Depuis la fin de la Seconde Guerre mondiale, le Canada a offert divers programmes visant à faciliter l'immigration des Européens de l'Est fuyant des régimes politiques ou le droit de sortie était sévèrement réglementé.

De 1947 à 1989, plus de 280 000 réfugiés et personnes déplacées originaires d'Europe de l'Est se sont établis au Canada, soit à titre de réfugiés au sens de la Convention, de membres des catégories désignées, soit en profitant de programmes spéciaux à caractère humanitaire.

Le Règlement sur l'immigration prévoit trois catégories désignées : les Indochinois (venant du Vietnam, du Cambodge et du Laos) ; les prisonniers politiques et les personnes opprimées (venant du Salvador, du Guatemala et du Chili) et les exilés volontaires (venant d'Europe de l'Est, sauf de la Yougoslavie et de l'URSS).

Le Règlement sur la catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires a été mis sur pied en 1979 afin de venir en aide aux personnes qui, bien que n'étant pas à proprement parler des réfugiés au sens de la Convention, se trouvaient dans une situation semblable à celle d'un réfugié. En vertu de ce règlement, les ressortissants des pays visés sejourant ailleurs qu'en Europe de l'Est et ne pouvant ou ne voulant y retourner peuvent venir s'établir au Canada, en étant parrainés soit par le gouvernement, dans le cadre de son plan annuel concernant les réfugiés, soit par des organismes du secteur privé.

Depuis 1983, le Canada a rétabli quelque 45 000 exilés volontaires d'Europe de l'Est, dont près de 30 000 venaient de la Pologne. En 1989, des quelque 15 500 réfugiés et personnes déplacées de cette région qui se sont rétablis au Canada, 80 p. 100, soit plus de 12 000, venaient de Pologne.

Le cas des Européens de l'Est qui, après le 31 août 1990, seront à l'extérieur de leur pays d'origine et qui ne voudront pas y retourner ou qui ne seront pas en mesure de le faire pourra être considéré aux fins d'immigration au Canada en vertu des programmes humanitaires du Canada. Le cas de ces demandeurs doit toutefois correspondre à la définition des réfugiés au sens de la Convention pour que ceux-ci puissent être admissibles.

«Grâce à nos bureaux d'immigration en URSS et en Europe de l'Est, nous pourrions adapter nos programmes aux conditions de chaque pays. Par conséquent, nous serons mieux placés pour réagir à des situations d'urgence pouvant se produire dans cette partie du monde», a soutenu le Ministre.

«Dans l'ensemble, cette nouvelle politique constitue une réaction positive du gouvernement par suite des réformes profondes mises en oeuvre, et qui continuent de l'être, en Europe de l'Est», a conclu M^{me} McDougall.

Vous trouverez des renseignements additionnels concernant l'annonce faite aujourd'hui dans le document d'information ci-joint.

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«Grâce à ces changements considérables, il sera encore plus facile de réunir les familles et d'autoriser, à des fins réalistes, la venues de migrants économiques, en tenant compte de notre politique en évolution continue de niveaux d'immigration», a ajouté le Ministre.

La mise en place de formalités normales entraînera l'abolition du Règlement sur la catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires visant les Européens de l'Est.

«Les importantes réformes introduites dans les pays de cette région comprennent l'abolition ou encore l'assouplissement des strictes mesures de contrôle sur le droit de sortie qui rendaient difficile, voire impossible, l'émigration légale de la plupart des citoyens. Ces mesures, ainsi que la crainte qu'éprouvaient les Européens de l'Est de subir des représailles s'ils étaient forcés de retourner dans leur pays, nous avaient incité à mettre sur pied la catégorie désignée d'exilés volontaires.

«Les formalités actuelles touchant au rétablissement au Canada des Européens de l'Est ne sont donc plus pertinentes», a souligné M^{me} McDougall. Le Ministre fait remarquer que les responsables de l'Immigration ont consulté des responsables de la communauté est-européenne au Canada avant d'annoncer les mesures rendues publiques aujourd'hui.

Des mesures provisoires seront appliquées afin de traiter le cas des personnes parrainées avant la date de l'abolition de la catégorie des exilés volontaires, soit le 31 août 1990. Cette catégorie a permis au gouvernement et à des groupes canadiens du secteur privé de parrainer depuis 1984 l'immigration d'environ 45 000 Soviétiques et Européens de l'Est, soit presque 16 000 personnes en 1989 seulement.



Pour publication

Le 17 août 1990

90-21

**La Ministre annonce une nouvelle politique concernant les
ressortissants d'Europe de l'Est**

Madame Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de
l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui que le Canada mettra en
oeuvre à compter du 4 septembre 1990 des formalités normales
pour le traitement du cas des ressortissants de l'URSS et de
l'Europe de l'Est.

A partir de cette date, les ambassades du Canada en URSS et
dans les pays d'Europe de l'Est commenceront à étudier les
demandes présentées par des travailleurs sélectionnés et
d'autres immigrants indépendants, en plus de celles faites par
les membres des catégories de la famille et des parents aidés
qu'elles traitent déjà. Ces ambassades seront pourvues le
plus tôt possible des installations nécessaires.

«Les changements historiques survenus en Union soviétique et
dans les pays d'Europe de l'Est nous permettent, pour la
première fois en plus de 50 ans, d'offrir dans cette région
tous les services normaux d'immigration», a déclaré

M^{me} McDougall.

CAI
MI
-R21Minister of Employment
and ImmigrationMinistre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date August 20, 1990

90-23



OTTAWA-- The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration today announced proposed changes to the Immigrant Investor component of Canada's Business Immigration Program.

The proposed new regulations were pre-published August 18, 1990 in the Canada Gazette. Interested parties have 30 days from the date of pre-publication to provide comments on the proposed regulations.

Amendments are proposed in the following areas of the Immigrant Investor Program.

o **Eligibility rules for investment:** The eligibility formula has been changed for investment under Tier I of the Program. Previously the first Tier covered provinces that received less than 3 per cent of business immigrants in a calendar year.

The proposed new regulations allow provinces which have received less than **10 per cent** of business immigrants in a calendar year to be eligible for investments made under Tier I. This first Tier allows for the minimum amount that must be invested under the Program. The change in the formula will make Alberta an eligible province for Tier I investments, along with the Atlantic Provinces, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

o **Investment minimum:** The minimum investment under Tier I has been increased from \$150,000 to \$250,000, and under Tier II from \$250,000 to \$350,000.

This will effectively increase the value of investment contributions to Canadian economic development.

o **Changes to the holding period for eligible investments:** The length of time that investment funds are locked-in will change from **three years** to **five years**. Experience with the Program has indicated that a three year lock-in period was too short a time to allow investments to mature sufficiently to yield good returns.

Under the proposed new regulations, the **start date** for the holding period for investment money will not begin until the funds are fully invested in Canada.

This change reflects more accurately the lengthy processing times abroad for investor immigrants and will effectively pressure syndicates and business ventures to invest funds as soon as received, thus increasing the economic benefits to Canada.

o Requirement for Canadian control of a business venture accepted under the Program: The proposed requirement for Canadian control of any company which manages a qualifying business venture or syndicate will ensure that control of investment operations remains in Canadian jurisdiction.

o Requirement for a letter of acceptance from the federal government for all business ventures, syndicates and government administered funds: Under the administrative guidelines for the Program introduced in 1988, a federal letter of acceptance was required. This proposed addition to the Regulations formalizes this requirement.

The proposed changes to the Regulations will not adversely affect those projects which are currently in the marketplace. Projects which are approved by a province after August 18, 1990, will be subject to the new regulations.

Subject to comments received, final review by a special committee of Cabinet and approval by the Governor in Council, the new Regulations should come into effect October 1, 1990. At that point new Guidelines for the Immigrant Investor Program will be published.

"These proposed regulatory changes will provide for clearer and more effective regulation of the Immigrant Investor Program and will ensure its positive impact on job creation and the economy," said Mrs. McDougall.

The Immigrant Investor category of the Business Immigration Program was introduced in January 1986. Since that time, 3,510 investor immigrants and their dependants have been landed in Canada under the Program.

Preliminary figures indicate that over \$700 million has been subscribed to date under the immigrant investor component of the Program and that over 14,000 jobs will have been either created or maintained in Canada through investor immigrants.

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La catégorie des immigrants investisseurs du programme d'immigration des gens d'affaires a été mise en place en janvier 1986. Depuis cette date, 3 510 immigrants investisseurs et les personnes à leur charge ont obtenu le droit d'établissement dans le cadre de ce programme.

Des données préliminaires indiquent que plus de 700 millions de dollars ont été placés au Canada dans le cadre de la composante immigrants investisseurs du programme; ainsi, plus de 14 000 emplois ont été créés ou préservés grâce aux immigrants investisseurs.

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"Les changements proposés rendront les dispositions réglementaires régissant le programme d'immigration des investisseurs plus claires et plus efficaces, tout en continuant de favoriser l'essor économique et la création d'emplois", a déclaré Mme McDougall.

Celles-ci devraient entrer en vigueur le 1^{er} octobre 1990, après que les intéressés auront fait part de leurs observations et que le comité spécial du Cabinet en aura terminé l'examen final. C'est alors que seront publiées les nouvelles directives sur le programme d'immigration des investisseurs.

Ce changement reflète avec plus d'exactitude les longs délais de traitement à l'étranger dans le cas des immigrants investisseurs et incitera les syndicats de placement et les entreprises à investir les fonds aussitôt qu'ils les reçoivent, ce qui accroîtra les avantages économiques pour le Canada.

o Exigence selon laquelle il faut que le projet d'entreprise accepté aux termes du programme soit en partie contrôlé par des intérêts canadiens : cette exigence qui porte sur le contrôle par des Canadiens d'une société qui gère une entreprise ou un syndicat de placement satisfaisant aux conditions requises, vise à assurer que les opérations relatives aux placements continuent d'être contrôlées par des Canadiens.

o Exigence selon laquelle il faut qu'une lettre d'acceptation soit envoyée par le gouvernement fédéral dans le cas de toutes les entreprises, de tous les fonds venant de syndicats de placement et de ceux administrés par le gouvernement : les directives administratives mises en place en 1988 exigeaient l'obtention d'une lettre d'acceptation du fédéral. La modification proposée rend cette exigence officielle.

Les modifications précitées n'auront pas d'effets défavorables sur les projets qui sont actuellement en cours. Ceux qui seront approuvés par les autorités provinciales après le 18 août 1990 seront soumis aux nouvelles dispositions réglementaires.

Les nouvelles dispositions réglementaires permettent aux provinces qui ont accueilli moins de

10 p. 100 de gens d'affaires immigrants au cours d'une année civile de satisfaisance aux exigences relatives aux placements de la sous-catégorie I. La première sous-catégorie permet d'investir le montant minimal autorisé en vertu du programme. Grâce aux nouvelles dispositions, l'Alberta ainsi que les provinces de l'Atlantique, la Saskatchewan et le Manitoba seront maintenant admissibles pour ce qui concerne la sous-catégorie I.

o **Placement minimal** : le placement minimal de la sous-catégorie I a été porté de 150 000 \$ à 250 000 \$ et celui de la sous-catégorie II de 250 000 à 350 000 \$.

L'augmentation des investissements contribuera à la croissance économique du Canada.

o **Modification de la période d'immobilisation des placements admissibles** : la période d'immobilisation du placement passe de trois à cinq ans. L'expérience a indiqué que la période de retenue de trois ans était insuffisante pour que les projets rapportent des dividendes.

En vertu des nouvelles dispositions réglementaires, la période de retenue ne commence qu'au moment de l'investissement intégral des fonds au Canada.



Pour publication

Date

Le 20 août 1990

90-23

Mme Barbara McDougall, Ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui les modifications envisagées à la composante immigrants investisseurs du programme d'immigration des gens d'affaires.

Les nouvelles dispositions réglementaires proposées ont été publiées au préalable le 18 août 1990 dans la Gazette du Canada. Les personnes intéressées ont 30 jours à partir de la date de publication préalable pour faire part de leurs observations.

Il est proposé d'apporter des modifications les domaines suivants du programme d'immigration des investisseurs :

o Règles d'admissibilité relatives au

placement : ces règles ont été modifiées pour les placements de la sous-catégorie I. Auparavant, les provinces visées par les dispositions relatives à la première sous-catégorie recevaient moins de 3 p. 100 de gens d'affaires immigrants par année civile.

CAI
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-R21

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

Government
Publications

For release

Date

August 29, 1990
90-24



OTTAWA - The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, will travel to Asia and Southeast Asia from September 2 to September 14, 1990 to visit Hong Kong and the cities of Bangkok and Delhi. This trip will provide the Minister with first-hand exposure to Canada's overseas immigration program and give her the opportunity to meet with Immigration officials to discuss refugee and immigration matters.

While in Hong Kong, (September 2-6) Mrs. McDougall will tour the immigration unit at the Canadian Commission. On September 4, she will travel to the Pillar Point and Whitehead refugee camps, where she will tour the facilities and view the refugee screening process. Later, the Minister will attend a "Meet with Success" orientation seminar for new immigrants to Canada.

During the morning of September 5, Mrs. McDougall will appear on the RTHK Today Show and be available for meetings with local and Canadian news reporters. For more information, media representatives should contact the Canadian Commission in Hong Kong.

At noon the same day, the Minister will address the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong.

Mrs. McDougall will then travel to Thailand (September 7-11) where she will meet with immigration staff at the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok, and tour the Ban Napho refugee camp, situated in a remote region near the Laotian border.

The Minister will wind up her tour in India (September 13-14) with a visit to the immigration unit at the Canadian High Commission in Delhi.

While in Hong Kong, Thailand and India, the Minister will also be meeting with various officials including Hong Kong Governor Sir David Wilson; provincial officials in Hong Kong; Australian Minister of Immigration Jerry Hand and members of non-governmental organizations.

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration

Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

October 3, 1990

90-25

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



"JOBS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS"

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced a pilot project -- the testing of a series of automated Job Information Centres (JIC) -- which could be a major breakthrough in helping people find jobs.

At the core of each Job Information Centre is a microcomputer which, at the touch of a button, enables job-seekers to find out about job vacancies faster than ever before -- as quickly as 10 seconds after the job has been posted. Manual posting took up to 85 minutes in the past.

Automated JICs are being piloted in selected shopping centres and Canada Employment Centres (CECs) across the country and, if found to be successful, are expected to be used on a national scale two years from now. In future, employers may also be able to access the on-line JIC to post job vacancies electronically.

"This project is on the leading edge of interactive, on-line job search systems in North America. What makes it unique is that it is fully self-serviced and always up to date. Now job selection and labour market information can be conveniently accessible to the public at shopping centres in addition to CECs," Mrs. McDougall said.

In pilot centres in Ontario at St. Catharines, Mississauga and Toronto East, the automated JIC has replaced the standard notice boards where jobs had been posted manually on index cards.

The first eight-unit JIC pilot was initiated in St. Catharines, in early May. Since then, 17 units service up to 800 clients per day in the largest pilot site (Mississauga), while in Toronto East, 10 units service the needs of our clients.

"The existing CEC job board is where our clients match themselves to jobs, but the problem has always been the time it takes for a job to be posted and read by a potential job-seeker. The automated JIC enables instant job-matching, even when the job is

posted from another province," Mrs. McDougall added.

When fully in place in all CECs and selected shopping centres, it is expected that the automated JIC system will pay for itself from the anticipated savings in unemployment insurance payments, plus the elimination of the paper-based job boards. More importantly, clients will benefit from the faster and more convenient service.

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Ministre de l'Emploi
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For release

Date

October 9, 1990

90-26



**Report on the consultations on immigration
for 1991-1995**

OTTAWA - Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today released the **Report on Consultations on Immigration for 1991-1995**. The consultations on the future direction of Canada's immigration policy took place across the country from November 1989 to March 1990.

"These were the most extensive, broadly based consultations on immigration conducted within the past 15 years," Mrs. McDougall said. "The material collected in the eight national opinion meetings, in numerous regional and federal-provincial meetings and from written submissions will help us chart the course of our Immigration Plan for 1991-1995," the Minister added.

"I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who participated in the consultations."

The 1990 consultations included representatives from business, labour, education, the social service and health care fields, the media, lawyers, economists, environmentalists, those concerned

with human rights, and academics and researchers working in relevant areas. Consultations with provincial governments were broadened as well.

Part 1 of the Report describes the consultation process, while Part 2 summarizes group plenary discussions at each of the eight national opinion meetings.

"In writing the Report, we tried to be as faithful as possible to the substance and tone of each of the group discussions," the Minister said. "I hope that participants will recognize their voices."

The consultations process revealed general support for increased immigration, as well as a concern to maintain a balance among the three main components of the program -- the family, refugee and independent streams. The issue of integration for newcomers, and in particular the adequacy of access to language training, was prominent. Participants were also asked to comment on the regional distribution of immigrants.

Mrs. McDougall observed that governments and immigrant-serving agencies need to plan the immigration intake for more than a single year, given the long-term implications of these population movements. "It's necessary to look farther down the road if we are to meet our immigration needs as well as assist those who choose to come to Canada," she said.

"Our immigration policy should reflect an evolving balance of many elements -- family reunification, protection of genuine refugees, and our labour market needs," Mrs. McDougall added.

"These consultations have given us much thoughtful advice and expertise to call upon as the immigration planning process continues in the years ahead."

The Annual Report on Immigration will be tabled in the House of Commons before November 1, 1990.

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M^{me} McDougall a souligné que les gouvernements et les organismes d'aide aux immigrants doivent planifier l'accueil des immigrants sur plus d'une année étant donné les répercussions à long terme des mouvements de population que représente l'immigration. « Nous devons regarder plus loin si nous voulons répondre aux besoins du Canada en matière d'immigration aussi bien qu'aider les nouveaux arrivants à s'établir au pays », a-t-elle précisé.

« Notre politique d'immigration doit traduire la recherche constante d'un équilibre entre de nombreux éléments : réunion des familles, protection des réfugiés authentiques et besoins de notre marché du travail », a déclaré M^{me} McDougall.

« Ces consultations nous ont permis de connaître l'opinion éclairée de nombreux experts auxquels nous pourrions continuer de faire appel pour planifier l'immigration dans les années à venir. »

Le Rapport annuel sur l'immigration sera déposé à la chambre des communes d'ici le 1^{er} novembre 1990.

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Parmi celles-ci se trouvaient des représentants du domaine des affaires, du travail, de l'éducation, des services sociaux, de la santé, des médias, de même que des avocats, des économistes, des environnementalistes, des personnes travaillant à la promotion des droits de la personne ainsi que des universitaires et des chercheurs actifs dans des domaines connexes. Les consultations avec les provinces ont également été élargies.

La première partie du rapport est une description et une explication du processus général de consultation; la deuxième partie contient les résumés des discussions de groupe présentées à la séance plénière de chacune des huit réunions nationales avec les leaders d'opinion. « Nous avons essayé de reproduire aussi fidèlement que possible ce qui a été dit à ces discussions de groupe et la façon dont cela a été dit, a ajouté le Ministre. Nous espérons ne pas avoir trahi la pensée des participants. »

Il s'est dégagé de ce processus de consultation un appui général en faveur d'un accroissement de l'immigration de même que la préoccupation de maintenir l'équilibre entre les trois principales composantes du programme -- les membres de la catégorie de la famille, les réfugiés et les immigrants indépendants. La question de l'intégration des nouveaux arrivants, notamment l'accès suffisant à la formation linguistique, a occupé une place importante. L'opinion des participants a par ailleurs été sollicitée concernant la répartition régionale des immigrants.



Pour publication

Le 9 octobre 1990
90-26

Rapport sur les consultations sur l'immigration
pour 1991-1995

Madame Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a publié aujourd'hui le Rapport des consultations sur l'immigration pour 1991-1995. Ces consultations, menées de novembre 1989 à mars 1990 dans l'ensemble du pays, portaient sur les orientations futures de la politique d'immigration du Canada.

«Ces consultations ont été les plus approfondies et les plus vastes qui aient été menées au cours des quinze dernières années», a déclaré Mme McDougall. Les données recueillies au cours des huit rencontres nationales avec les leaders d'opinion et des nombreuses réunions au niveau régional ainsi qu'avec les provinces de même que les dossiers qui nous ont été soumis nous aident à établir notre plan d'immigration pour les années 1991 à 1995.»

«J'aimerais remercier toutes les personnes qui ont participé à ces consultations», a poursuivi le Ministre.

CAI
MI
-R21Minister of Employment
and ImmigrationMinistre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

October 22, 1990

90-28

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA -- Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, indicated that she is pleased that Bill C-21 an Act to amend the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Act, received Third Reading Approval in the Senate tonight. The amendments to the (UI) Act will improve the program's ability to help workers adjust to change. Most of the provisions of Bill C-21 will go into effect November 18, 1990.

"We will now be able to help Canadian workers develop their skills and help them prepare for the future," said Mrs. McDougall.

Bill C-21, as part of the government's Labour Force Development Strategy, will strengthen the ability of the UI program to focus more effectively on workers in need and allow more skills training to assist claimants to successfully adapt to changing labour market conditions. The Bill also brings the program into conformity with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The significant changes to the UI program include:

- \$800 M for increased training and other initiatives to help the unemployed.
- a revision of the current system of maternity, parental, child-care and sickness benefits to make them more flexible and more generous.

- an amendment to entrance requirements and the duration of benefits. These changes reflect the widely varying labour market conditions found across the country.
- extended unemployment insurance to workers over the age of 65 and to people working for their spouses in a normal working relationship.
- an increase to the penalties for those who quit their jobs without just cause, refuse a job, or are fired for misconduct. It raises the number of weeks these people must wait until they receive benefits and reduces their benefit rate.
- several housekeeping amendments aimed at simplifying the administration of the program and increasing fairness and flexibility.

"This is a significant step forward in how we deal with Canadian workers and how we prepare them for the challenge of the future", continued Mrs. McDougall. "This is one of the most important pieces of legislation on our agenda and will provide significant benefits for all Canadians."

(See attached backgrounders)

Information: Rita Mezzanotte and Rick Perkins
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(819) 994-2482

Public Affairs -- (819) 953-5117

Backgrounder 1

When the changes go into effect

Most of the changes to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Act go into effect November 18, 1990:

- Entrance requirements and duration of benefits -- These changes go into effect on November 18, 1990. (Most claims started before that date will continue under the old rules until the claim ends.)
- Maternity/Parental benefits -- These changes go into effect November 18, 1990.
- UI benefits after age 65 -- These changes will be retroactive to September 23, 1988.
- Increased penalties for those who quit their job without "just cause", are fired for misconduct or refuse a suitable job offer -- These changes go into effect November 18, 1990.
- Fishing benefits -- These changes go into effect November 4, 1990.
- Premiums -- The premium rate set out in Bill C-21 (\$2.25/\$100 for employees) is in effect January 1, 1990.

Implementation dates have been set to give necessary time to train staff, verify and install necessary programs and to inform all interested publics.

Backgrounder 2

Access to Unemployment Insurance Benefits

1. Minimum entrance requirements
2. Duration of benefits

1. Minimum Entrance Requirements

The Act will retain the UI program's sensitivity to regional economic conditions but will increase the minimum qualifying periods in most areas. Claimants will need from 10 to 20 weeks of work to qualify for benefits, depending on the regional unemployment rate.

However, in recognition of the special situation of seasonal workers, the repeater provision is eliminated.

Table 1: Variable Entrance Requirement

<u>Regional Unemployment Rate</u>	<u>Weeks of Work Needed to Qualify for Benefits</u>
6.0% and under	20
over 6.0% - 7.0%	19
over 7.0% - 8.0%	18
over 8.0% - 9.0%	17
over 9.0% - 10.0%	16
over 10.0% - 11.0%	15
over 11.0% - 12.0%	14
over 12.0% - 13.0%	13
over 13.0% - 14.0%	12
over 14.0% - 15.0%	11
over 15.0%	10

Duration of Benefits

C-21 simplifies the benefit structure. Duration of benefits will continue to be based on weeks worked and the regional rate of unemployment. The structure is being narrowed to a single phase.

Furthermore, except in those areas with the highest unemployment rates, the maximum benefit period is reduced.

Please refer to the following table.

Number of Weeks Claimant Can Receive Benefits

• Unemployment Rate in Claimant's Region •

Weeks of Work •	6% and under	over 6% to 7%	over 7% to 8%	over 8% to 9%	over 9% to 10%	over 10% to 11%	over 11% to 12%	over 12% to 13%	over 13% to 14%	over 14% to 15%	over 15% to 16%	over 16%
	10										37	39
	11										38	40
	12								35	37	39	41
	13							34	36	38	40	42
	14						33	35	37	39	41	43
	15					30	34	36	38	40	42	44
	16				27	31	35	37	39	41	43	45
	17			24	28	32	36	38	40	42	44	46
	18		21	25	29	33	37	39	41	43	45	47
	19		19	22	26	30	34	38	40	42	44	46
	20	17	20	23	27	31	35	39	43	45	47	49
	21	18	21	24	28	32	36	40	44	46	48	50
	22	19	22	25	29	33	37	41	45	47	49	
	23	20	23	26	30	34	38	42	46	48	50	
	24	21	24	27	31	35	39	43	45	47		
	25	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48	50	
	26	22	25	28	32	36	40	44	46	48		
	27	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49		
	28	23	26	29	33	37	41	45	47	49		
	29	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48	50		
	30	24	27	30	34	38	42	46	48			
	31	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49			
	32	25	28	31	35	39	43	47	49			
	33	26	29	32	36	40	44	48	50			
	34	26	29	32	36	40	44	48				
	35	27	30	33	37	41	45	49				
	36	27	30	33	37	41	45	49				
	37	28	31	34	38	42	46	50				
	38	28	31	34	38	42	46					
	39	29	32	35	39	43	47					
	40	29	32	35	39	43	47					
	41	30	33	36	40	44	48					
	42	30	33	36	40	44	48					
	43	31	34	37	41	45	49					
	44	31	34	37	41	45	49					
	45	32	35	38	42	46	50					
	46	32	35	38	42	46						
	47	33	36	39	43	47						
	48	33	36	39	43	47						
	49	34	37	40	44	48						
	50	34	37	40	44	48						
	51	35	38	41	45	49	50	50	50	50	50	50
	52	35	38	41	45	49	50	50	50	50	50	50

Backgrounder 3

Maternity/Parental/Sickness/(special) Benefits

C-21 completely revises the maternity, parental, and sickness benefits. The Bill substantially increases the flexibility and duration of benefits and meets the requirements of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Act now contains the following multi-tiered system of special benefits:

- 15 weeks of maternity benefits in the period surrounding the birth of a child;
- 10 weeks of parental benefits, available to natural or adoptive parents, either mother or father, or shared between them as they deem appropriate; and
- a more flexible combination of regular, sickness, maternity and parental benefits.

More than one type of special benefit could be claimed within the same benefit period, up to a cumulative maximum of 30 weeks (e.g., 7 weeks of sickness, 15 weeks of maternity, and 8 weeks of parental benefits). In addition, claimants would be able to receive special benefits in combination with regular benefits, but the total could not exceed 30 weeks or the maximum regular benefit entitlement, whichever was greater.

Backgrounder 4

Other Unemployment Insurance Changes

1. Unemployment Insurance after the age of 65.
2. Unemployment Insurance coverage for employer relatives
3. Penalties
4. Premium rates
5. Housekeeping amendments

1. Unemployment Insurance after the age of 65

The Act recognizes the fact that more Canadians are choosing to work beyond age 65. Therefore workers who are 65 or over will have to pay UI premiums, but will be entitled to UI benefits if they lose their jobs, as long as they meet the usual qualifying conditions. The three-week lump sum payment will no longer be payable.

2. Unemployment Insurance coverage for employer relatives

The Act stipulates that workers who are related to their employer be covered by Unemployment Insurance if they are dealing "at arms length". If they work under the same sort of employment contract as other workers who are not related to the employer, their employment is insured and they will pay premiums. This means that if they become unemployed they will also be able to claim any benefit they are qualified for. Factors such as rate of pay, conditions of employment, length, type and importance of their work will be used to decide whether or not their employment is insurable.

3. Penalties

The Act contains penalties for people who quit their jobs without just cause, are fired for misconduct, or refuse to take new jobs, up to 7-12 weeks.

The term "without just cause" is defined in the Act so as to protect the workers who are justified for leaving their employment, such as in the case of sexual harassment. However, those who do leave their employment without what is determined as a "just cause" will be penalized.

The disqualifications will start after the waiting period and will be for periods when benefits would otherwise be payable. Any weeks of disqualification not served will be carried over to any future benefit period in the next two years, unless the worker files a new claim with at least 20 weeks of insurable employment.

After the period of disqualification the amount of benefits will also be lowered to 50% of the claimant's average weekly insurable earnings. This lower benefit rate will continue for the rest of the benefit period.

However, a period of disqualification will be deferred if the claimant is eligible for sickness, maternity or parental benefits.

Fraud

Employers who submit false information will face penalties of up to nine times the maximum weekly benefits. These penalties can only be given within three years of the fraud.

Employers or employees who knowingly give false information can be prosecuted instead of being penalized. The fine for offenses is \$2,000 or 6 months in prison, or both.

4. Premium rates

The unemployment insurance premium rate for 1990, 1991 and 1992 is set at \$2.25 per \$100 of insurable earnings for workers. The employer's premium rate remains at 1.40 times the employee rate.

5. Housekeeping amendments

Changes include:

Updating labour dispute provisions

Workers affected by strikes will be able to collect sickness, maternity, parental and training benefits when leave was arranged or anticipated before the strike.

However, claimants will be disentitled when they will return to work at the end of the leave if the strike is persisting.

Repayments

The Commission will have six years (plus any appeal period) to recover UI benefit debt.

Extension of benefit periods

Benefit periods can be extended up to 156 weeks for training purposes.

No work periods

Self-funded leave and off-work periods earned in work with longer than regular hours are no longer considered as periods of unemployment.

Antedating

The Commission can now retroactively reconsider application for premium reduction plans from employers.

The Commission has been given the authority to antedate renewed or continuing claims or requests to cancel or end a benefit period.

Job exchange

All job exchanges from abroad not paid by Canadian sources will be excluded from Canadian UI.

Workers' Compensation

All temporary payments from Workers' Compensation are considered as earnings and therefore deductible from benefits.

Supplementary Unemployment Benefit Plans

The Commission has the authority to define the criteria for employer supplementary unemployment benefits plans and to exempt payments of the approved plans from deductible earnings.

Backgrounder 5

Developmental uses of Unemployment Insurance funds

Under the Act, \$800 million of UI funds will be used to expand active developmental assistance under Section 26, to include training, relocation assistance, self-employment, and re-employment incentives. The detailed program design will be subject to a consultation process.

1. Training programs

The UI Account will pay for administrative costs, course purchase, basic income support, and supplementary allowances for the care of dependent children, travelling, and living away from home while attending courses and programs.

UI recipients also have access to assessment, job search, and counselling services at an earlier stage in their claim.

2. Relocation assistance

UI claimants who wish to seek employment or to move where job prospects are better will be able to benefit from expanded relocation assistance under the Act.

3. Self-employment and entrepreneurship

UI recipients with a viable business plan would be allowed to collect UI benefits while starting a business or becoming self-employed.

4. Re-employment Incentives

Some UI funds will be set aside to finance re-employment incentives.

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

Gouvernement
Publications

For release



Date **November 13, 1990**

90-30

1991 Unemployment Insurance maximum insurable earnings

OTTAWA -- The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission today announced the Unemployment Insurance (UI) maximum insurable earnings figure for 1991.

This figure is calculated in accordance with statutory requirements. Beginning on January 1, 1991, the maximum weekly insurable earnings will be \$680, up from \$640 in 1990. This is equivalent to a 6.3 per cent increase. As a result, the maximum weekly UI benefit (60 per cent of maximum insurable earnings) will increase to \$408 in 1991 from \$384 in 1990.

Workers must earn a minimum amount to be insured under the UI program. Measured in dollars, the minimum is equal to 20 per cent of the maximum weekly insurable earnings. This will be \$136 a week in 1991, up from \$128 a week in 1990. (Workers may also meet this requirement by working a minimum of 15 hours a week for the same employer.)

Annual increases in the maximum insurable earnings are determined by a formula set out in the UI Act and reflect the average annual increase in earnings over the last 8 years (see backgrounder #1).

.../2

UI claimants whose annual net income (including UI benefits) exceeds 1.5 times the maximum **yearly** insurable earnings must repay 30 per cent of those UI benefits that make up the excess. For the 1991 tax year, \$53,040 will be the limit above which the repayment formula applies. In 1990, the limit is \$49,920.

As provided by the Act to Amend the Unemployment Insurance Act (Bill C-21), which has recently received Royal Assent, employees will pay \$2.25 per \$100 of insurable earnings for the whole of 1990, 1991 and 1992. Employers will pay \$3.15 per \$100 of such employee earnings (1.4 times the employee rate).

For an explanation of the relevant portion of Bill C-21, please refer to backgrounder #2. Backgrounder #3 illustrates the combined impact of premium rate and maximum insurable earnings for the period 1987 to 1991.

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Charles Larocque
(Public Affairs)
(819) 953-5117

Backgrounder #1

How 1991 maximum insurable earnings are set

The maximum weekly insurable earnings figure is the maximum level of income that can be insured each week for UI purposes, and is used to determine the maximum weekly contributions and maximum weekly benefit.

The 1991 figure is the result of two separate calculations.

- 1) First, the earnings index for 1991 must be calculated. This is the ratio of an eight-year moving average of employees' annual average earnings (from 1982 to 1989) to an eight-year base average (from 1966 to 1973). *
- 2) Next, the maximum insurable earnings figure for 1975 is multiplied by the earnings index for 1991. The result is rounded to the nearest multiple of \$5. This is the maximum weekly insurable earnings figure used by the Commission.

Minimum weekly insurable earnings are 20 per cent of maximum insurable earnings.

The increase in the maximum figure reflects an average increase in wages and salaries for Canadian workers over the most recent eight-year period. This increase maintains consistent protection under the program from year to year by keeping generally constant the percentage (approximately 70 per cent) of Canadian workers whose wages are fully insured. At the same time, those workers who earn consistently above the maximum will have a similar proportion of their wages insured from year to year.

* Employees' annual average earnings are calculated from the average of annual salaries or wages for Canadian workers, as determined by Revenue Canada, Taxation from T4 Supplementary slips.

Backgrounder #2

An Act to Amend the Unemployment Insurance Act (Bill C-21) has received Royal Assent. One of the provisions states that UI benefits will be completely financed by employer and employee premiums. To provide premium rate stability and allow employers to better plan their payrolls, the government set the premium rate for employees at \$2.25 per \$100 of insurable earnings for the whole of 1990, 1991 and 1992. The employer premium rate remains at 1.4 times the employee rate or \$3.15.

Background #3

Comparison of premium rates

(1987 - 1991)

Maximum weekly insurable earnings	Premium rate per \$100 of insurable earnings	Maximum weekly contribution		Annual contributions				Difference from previous year
		EE	ER	EE	ER	EE	ER	
		\$		\$		\$		
1987	\$530	2.35	3.29	12.46	17.44	647.92	906.88	+43.16 +60.32
1988	\$565	2.35	3.29	13.28	18.59	690.56	966.68	+42.64 +59.80
1989	\$605	1.95	2.73	11.80	16.52	613.60	859.04	-76.96 -107.64
1990	\$640	2.25	3.15	14.40	20.16	748.80	1048.32	+135.20 +189.28
1991	\$680	2.25	3.15	15.30	21.42	795.60	1113.84	+46.80 +65.52

EE - employee contribution

ER - employer contribution (1.4 times the employee contribution)

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

November 15, 1990

90-31



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**McDougall announces funding for Community Futures
projects across Canada**

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced federal funding of \$11.2 million under the Community Futures program.

These funds will help pay for 35 community-based projects, two new community selections, and provide additional assistance to the Elliot Lake area.

"When I announced the Labour Force Development Strategy in April 1989, I said that it would provide an additional \$50 million annually to the Community Futures program. Now that Bill C-21 has been passed by Parliament, we can provide communities with this extra help", said Mrs. McDougall.

Today's announcement includes a total of \$9.5 million for the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF). This funding is the federal government's share of costs for local projects designed to generate new permanent jobs. A list of the funding, by province, is attached.

The announcement also includes the selection of two new Community Futures areas, one in the Grand Forks area of British Columbia, and another in and around Oxford County, Ontario; they join 215 other areas across Canada already selected under the Community Futures program.

An additional \$1.7 million will be used to help Elliot Lake and nearby communities in Ontario which have been hard hit by major layoffs in the mining industry. These funds will finance additional activity under programs of the Canadian Jobs Strategy, including training, community economic development and adjustment assistance. Thus far in 1990, the Elliot Lake area has received \$6 million in assistance from Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC).

"I am delighted that the government can now give rural communities this help," Mrs. McDougall added, "it is long overdue, and only the first of many measures that passage of Bill C-21 has made possible".

- 30 -

For information:

Jean-Pierre Lecours
Director,
Employer and Community Programs & Services
(819) 953-4662

Rita Mezzanotte
Minister's Office
(819) 994-2482

COMMUNITY FUTURESCOMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND**NEWFOUNDLAND**

-	BONNE BAY	Bonne Bay Ferry	\$ 50,000
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NOVA SCOTIA

-	CAPE BRETON	Labourers Development Company (Housing Corporation)	\$ 300,000
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-	CAPE BRETON	Women's World Finance Cape Breton Association	\$ 150,000
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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

-	WEST PRINCE	O'Leary Promotions Inc. (Sports Centre)	\$ 125,000
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NEW BRUNSWICK

-	MIRAMICHI	Miramichi Riverfront Destination Area	\$1,500,000
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QUEBEC

-	ST-JUSTE-DU-LAC	Cercueils du Bas St-Laurent Inc.	\$ 50,000
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-	ST-JEAN-DE-DIEU	Menuiserie Bélisle Inc.	\$ 50,000
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-	ST-LOUIS- DU-HA! HA!	Centre d'interprétation scientifique du Témiscouata	\$ 275,000
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-	LATERRIERE	Développement récréo- touristique intégré	\$ 433,339
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ONTARIO

-	ASSIGINACK	S.S. Norisle Heritage Park	\$ 31,979
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-	LITTLE CURRENT	Entrance-Way Waterfront	\$ 104,000
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-	BLIND RIVER	Economical & Social Services Base	\$ 300,000
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-	SPANISH	Dredging & Waterfront Development	\$ 143,912
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-	PRINCE EDWARD	Reptile Breeding Foundation	\$ 75,000
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-	EAR FALLS	Heavy Equipment Capital Acquisition	\$ 330,000
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-	DYMOND	Dymond Development Road	\$ 500,000
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MANITOBA

-	ELIE	Elie Medical Centre	\$ 156,250
-	PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE	Portage Personal Care Home	\$ 247,025
-	KEYSTONE	Keystone Centre Building Expansion	\$1,000,000
-	HAMIOTA	Hamiota and District Sports Complex	\$ 500,000

SASKATCHEWAN

-	ESTON	Eston Medical Centre	\$ 200,000
-	ESTON	Eston and District Community Complex	\$ 500,000
-	OYEN	Oyen Family Vacation Destination Resort	\$ 338,582
-	PORCUPINE PLAIN	Porcupine Opportunity Program	\$ 39,000
-	TISDALE	Trail Rite Flatdecks Ltd.	\$ 50,000
-	ST. WALBURG	St. Walburg Tourism Development	\$ 15,000

ALBERTA

-	BIG VALLEY	Big Valley Jamboree Development	\$ 45,000
-	LAC LA BICHE	Lac La Biche Mission Redevelopment	\$ 45,000
-	LLOYDMINSTER	Native Job Development	\$ 57,000
-	LLOYDMINSTER	Marketplace Program	\$ 50,000
-	RED DEER AND DISTRICT	Adventures West/West Central Regional Tourism Initiative	\$ 184,500
-	SEXSMITH	Sexsmith Downtown Revitalisation	\$ 400,000
-	ROSEBUD	Rosebud Dinner Theatre Expansion	\$ 170,000

BRITISH COLUMBIA

-	OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN	Southern Interior Development Corporation	\$ 87,608
-	SHUSWAP	Forest Management Impact Monitoring	\$ 987,000

BACKGROUNDER
Community Futures Program

Community Futures, a component of the Canadian Jobs Strategy of Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC), builds on the strengths and resilience of communities hit hard by mass layoffs, closures, high unemployment or economic decline. The program encourages communities to develop initiatives on their own.

Community Futures supports local business leaders, labour, government and other interest groups to identify, develop and undertake measures to help their communities adjust to change. It is targeted to communities outside metropolitan areas that are in the greatest need.

Employment and Immigration Canada selects these communities in close consultation with the provinces, territories and other federal departments. Once selected, the community is encouraged to set up a Community Futures Committee with local representation. The Committee chooses program options most suitable for the community's needs.

A total of 215 areas have been selected for assistance under EIC's Community Futures Program in the past four years.

The Options

The Community Futures Committee can choose the following program options:

Business Development Centres which provide locally managed technical and advisory services to small businesses as well as loan investment assistance of up to \$75,000 per firm from a \$1.5 million investment fund.

Self-Employment Incentives providing \$200 a week for one year to enable unemployed individuals to start their own business.

Training assistance for the purchase of courses in approved institutions for training the employed, self-employed or unemployed.

Relocation and Travel assistance for individuals or groups of workers to relocate to jobs in other locales.

Community Initiatives Fund which will match funds from other sources for local projects designed to generate new permanent jobs.

Program options are available to selected Community Futures communities for up to a five-year period. Community Futures allows communities to initiate solutions and choose programs that are closely tailored to the local needs.

BACKGROUNDER

Community Initiatives Fund (CIF)

The Community Initiatives Fund option of Employment and Immigration Canada's Community Futures (CF) program provides financial support for proposals which are recommended by the Community Futures Committees. The proposals must provide economic growth and recovery and be ones which cannot be supported under other federal programs (i.e. do not meet program criteria, funds not available, or only a portion of the funds are available under other federal programs).

Within the context of the program, the option provides exceptional support for activities which are integral to the community's economic growth and recovery, as expressed in its strategic analysis and plan, and assessed as such by the Community Futures Committee.

Where such activities cannot be funded by other programs as described above, Employment and Immigration Canada, in its immediate partnership role with the community, can fund or contribute to the funding of such activities.

Minister of Employment
and ImmigrationMinistre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

November 26, 1990

90-33

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****McDOUGALL ANNOUNCES REINSTATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR
TRAINING OF FEEPAYER CLIENTS**

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced that Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants will again be eligible to collect UI while taking approved courses for which they pay their own tuition fees.

"When I announced the Labour Force Development Strategy in April 1989, I said that it would provide additional funding for increased training and other initiatives to help the unemployed," said Mrs. McDougall.

"Now that Bill C-21 has been passed by Parliament, we can reinstate the feepayer benefits program under Section 26 of the UI Act," the Minister added.

An additional \$30 million in funding for Section 26 for the remainder of 1990 has been approved by Treasury Board, bringing the total 1990 expenditures under Section 26 to \$376 million.

"Training is a critical component of every Canadian's working future - especially for those workers who are temporarily unemployed," the Minister added.

For information:

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Yves Poisson
Director General
Policy and Program Development
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BACKGROUNDER

Section 26 Feepayer trainees

Through the developmental uses of funds under the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Act, Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC) provides claimants with the opportunity to pursue skill and occupational training in order to improve their employability and their prospects of securing a long-term job. Section 26 of the UI Act allows payment of benefits to workers who follow approved courses of training.

Feepayer trainees are Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients who pay their own training costs, but continue to receive UI payments under Section 26 of the UI Act if they take approved training courses that will improve their chances for a job. New referrals to feepayer training were suspended last summer until funding became available with the passage of Bill C-21.

Although the reinstatement of the feepayer benefits program will not be retroactive, clients who enrolled in courses following last summer's suspension of funding, and are still in training, should contact their local Canada Employment Centre to establish whether they are eligible to again collect Unemployment Insurance benefits.

In 1989, 33,000 claimants were approved as feepayer trainees.

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

November 29, 1990

90-34



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall announced today a \$165,000 study aimed at defining the current and longer term human resource needs of the computer software industry in Canada.

"Technology will play an increasingly important role in promoting Canadian economic growth and national competitiveness," said Mrs. McDougall. "This study has been initiated to ensure that Canadians are alerted to the human resource needs of this industry and that mechanisms are in place for workers and employers alike to meet the requirements which will make Canada competitive."

The study will analyze the rapidly evolving skill requirements of Canada's computer software industry and the human resource needs of other sectors in the economy which engage in software development.

"We need an up-to-date understanding of the skill and training requirements of this strategic sector to ensure that we will be able to meet the knowledge needs of Canadian industry as we prepare for the 21st century. This study will benefit everyone involved in software development by helping us to identify the course of action we should take to remain globally competitive," added the Minister.

The study is being initiated at the request of the Canadian Advanced Technology Association (CATA) and the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS) and is sponsored by the Sector Studies Directorate of Employment and Immigration Canada.

A Steering Committee, co-chaired by representatives of CATA and CIPS, and drawn from employers, government, industry associations, the private sector and educational institutions has been established.

This Committee will manage the project and oversee the work of the consultants who will conduct the research. Final results are expected by mid-1991.

For information:

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



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et de l'Immigration

Government
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall today announced a new Aboriginal employment and training strategy called "Pathways to Success". The Strategy was developed as a partnership between Employment and Immigration Canada (EIC) and Aboriginal groups.

The new strategy is based on five principles that were developed by Aboriginal people and were endorsed by Minister McDougall on behalf of the Federal Government on June 13, 1990. (See attached).

It is estimated that approximately \$200 million per year will be directed to building a skilled, competitive Aboriginal workforce.

"Aboriginal people are taking control of their human resource development and Pathways provides for changes to the basic working relationship between Aboriginal people and Employment and Immigration Canada," said Mrs. McDougall.

Central to the strategy is the establishment of Aboriginal boards. These boards will be community driven and will empower Aboriginal people to determine their human resource development priorities at the local, regional and national level. Aboriginal people will be in the forefront of policy decisions regarding Aboriginal human resource development. The local and regional level boards are to be implemented by April 1, 1991.

Another important component of the strategy is to ensure that Aboriginal people have full access to the complete range of labour market adjustment programs and services of EIC.

"Pathways will ensure that the Aboriginal labour force initiative addresses the particular needs of Aboriginal women, youth and the disabled, and will in fact reach those Aboriginal people who are most in need," Mrs. McDougall said.

"Pathways is a co-management process that will ensure that Aboriginal human resource development activities are delivered, managed and controlled by Aboriginal people, in partnership with EIC," she added.

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Backgrounder

PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

In recognition of Employment and Immigration Canada's (EIC) mandate to facilitate adjustments, required for the effective functioning of the Canadian labour market, and in recognition of the benefits for all Aboriginal peoples, it is the objective of Aboriginal people and EIC to establish an effective partnership to invest in and develop a trained Aboriginal labour force for partnership in unique Aboriginal labour markets and the broader Canadian labour market.

This partnership is based on the following five principles:

1. Consultation Process and Local Control of Decision Making

That this partnership be solidified through the establishment of national, regional and local consultation/management boards to ensure that the needs and priorities of the Aboriginal community are addressed and are reflected in the design, development and implementation of EIC policies that affect them.

2. Delivery Mechanisms

That employment and training programs and services be managed, operated, conducted and arranged through Aboriginal infrastructures.

3. Funding Mechanisms and Institutional Development Capacity

That a funding mechanism be developed which recognizes the planning and operational needs of Aboriginal delivery machinery, and develops a capacity as described above, reflecting the level of need in Aboriginal communities. Such a mechanism could be based on existing successful models.

4. Employment Equity

That EIC aggressively undertake pro-active measures to improve recruitment, training and employment of Aboriginal people both internally and externally to EIC.

5. Eligibility for Programs and Services

That, consistent with the principles enunciated above, the Aboriginal delivery machinery be given the discretion to determine a person's eligibility for programs and services, and that, more generally, there be a reliance on counselling for determining eligibility, rather than on strict eligibility criteria as in the past.

ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING STRATEGY

HISTORY

In late 1989 the Aboriginal Employment and Training Working Group (AETWG) was established in response to growing concerns of Aboriginal people about anticipated program changes as a result of the Labour Force Development Strategy, Employment and Immigration's role in the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) and Aboriginal participation in Canadian Jobs Strategy programs. The mandate of the AETWG was to review EIC programs and services for Aboriginal people; participate in the design of LFDS programming; and make recommendations to improve and rationalize Aboriginal training and employment effort from program design to delivery. The Working Group was made up of representatives from the six national Aboriginal organizations, regional experts involved in Aboriginal training and employment, and EIC regional and headquarters officials.

Aboriginal representatives of the AETWG tabled five principles for a new working relationship between Aboriginal people and Employment and Immigration. The five 'partnership' principles were endorsed by the AETWG, the six national Aboriginal organizations, several regional Aboriginal organizations across Canada, and by the Minister of Employment and Immigration on behalf of the government (attached). The AETWG also produced two papers, a background paper and a policy and implementation paper, entitled "Pathways to Success: Aboriginal People and the Labour Force Development Strategy". The process outlined by the principles has come to be known as the 'Pathways' process.

Central to the five partnership principles is the establishment of management boards to share the decision-making on EIC projects, programs and services as they affect Aboriginal people. The joint-management structure will be a bottom-up one, that is representation at the regional-level will be elected from local level boards and regional-level boards will nominate representatives to the national-level board.

Having successfully completed its mandate the Working Group was disbanded and an interim National Aboriginal Management Board (NAMB) was established in October, 1990. This board will serve as the national level board until membership can be determined through the regional boards. Regional consultations between EIC and Aboriginal groups are currently under way to address issues pertaining to the establishment of local and regional boards such as board boundaries, membership, roles and responsibilities and related issues. Local and regional Aboriginal management boards are expected to be in place as of April 1, 1991.

STRATÉGIE D'EMPLOI ET DE FORMATION DES AUTOCHTONES

HISTORIQUE

À la fin de 1989, le groupe de travail concernant l'emploi et la formation des autochtones (GTFA) a été créé pour réagir aux modifications prévues aux programmes suite à la Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'œuvre (SMMO), au rôle que joue l'emploi et l'immigration Canada (EIC) dans la Stratégie canadienne de développement économique des autochtones (SCDEA), et à la participation des autochtones dans les programmes de l'emploi (PE). Le GTFA avait pour mandat "d'examiner les programmes et les services d'EIC destinés aux peuples autochtones; de participer à la conception des programmes de la SMMO; et de faire des recommandations en vue d'améliorer et de rationaliser l'ensemble des activités de formation et d'emploi des autochtones, de la conception des programmes à leur exécution". Le groupe de travail était composé de représentants des six organisations autochtones nationales, de huit spécialistes régionaux de la formation des autochtones et de fonctionnaires de l'Administration centrale et des bureaux régionaux d'EIC.

Les représentants du GTFA ont présenté cinq principes qui devraient servir de fondement aux nouvelles relations de travail entre les autochtones et EIC. Le GTFA, les représentants des six organisations autochtones, plusieurs organisations régionales autochtones à travers le Canada, et la ministre d'Emploi et l'immigration au nom du gouvernement ont appuyé les cinq principes de "partenariat" (document annexe). Le GTFA a rédigé deux documents intitulés Les chemins de la réussite: Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'œuvre autochtone: document de fonds et Les chemins de la réussite: Stratégie de mise en valeur de la main-d'œuvre: document d'orientation et de mise en œuvre. La stratégie de ces principes est décrite dans "Les chemins de la réussite".

Le fondement des cinq principes de partenariat porte sur la mise en œuvre de comités de gestion afin de partager conjointement la prise de décision des projets, des programmes et des services d'EIC qui touchent les autochtones. La structure de gestion conjointe s'établira à tous les niveaux, à savoir, que les représentants régionaux seront élus des conseils locaux et les conseils régionaux nommeront des représentants au conseil national.

La dernière réunion du GTFA s'est tenue après avoir rempli avec succès son mandat, et un comité de gestion autochtone national a provisoirement été constitué en octobre 1990. Il fera fonction de conseil national provisoire, jusqu'à ce que les conseils régionaux aient été créés et aient pu nommer les membres qui feront partie du conseil national. Des groupes d'autochtones sont présentement consultés dans chaque région par EIC et portent sur des questions telles que la forme que prendront les comités mixtes de gestion à l'échelon local et régional, les endroits où ils seront constitués ainsi que leurs rôles et leurs responsabilités. On prévoit que les comités de gestion autochtones locaux et régionaux seront constitués à compter du 1er avril 1991.

concernant l'admissibilité d'une personne aux programmes et aux services relève des infrastructures autochtones, et que l'admissibilité soit établie par les services de counselling, plutôt qu'en fonction des critères stricts appliqués par le passé.

2. Infrastructure de prestation des services

Que les programmes et services d'emploi et de formation soient gérés, dirigés et mis en oeuvre par l'entremise des infrastructures autochtones.

3. Moyens de financement et capacité de développement des établissements de formation

Que l'on détermine des moyens de financement qui tiennent compte des besoins de planification et des besoins opérationnels des infrastructures autochtones, et qui permettent de développer la capacité susmentionnée en fonction des besoins des collectivités autochtones. Cette infrastructure pourrait être élaborée à partir de modèles existants efficaces.

4. Équité en matière d'emploi

Qu'EIC élabore rapidement des mesures préventives pour améliorer le recrutement, la formation et l'emploi des autochtones à l'intérieur comme à l'extérieur du Ministère.

5. Admissibilité aux programmes et aux services

Que, conformément aux principes énoncés ci-dessus, la décision

Compte tenu du mandat d'EIC qui consiste à faciliter l'adaptation nécessaire pour assurer l'efficacité du marché du travail canadien, et compte tenu des avantages que cela comporte pour tous les groupes d'autochtones, le peuple autochtone et EIC ont comme objectif d'établir un partenariat visant à investir dans une main-d'oeuvre autochtone et à la former afin qu'elle puisse participer à un marché du travail autochtone distinct, ainsi qu'au vaste marché du travail canadien.

1. Processus de consultation et contrôle local de la prise de décisions

Que ce partenariat soit soutenu par la mise sur pied de comités de gestion et de consultation au niveau national, régional et local pour veiller à ce que l'on tienne compte des besoins et des priorités des collectivités autochtones, et que ceux-ci soient reliés dans la conception, l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre des politiques d'EIC qui touchent les autochtones.

« Cette stratégie constitue un processus de co-gestion qui garantira la réalisation, la gestion et la surveillance d'activités de mise en valeur des ressources humaines autochtones conjointement par les autochtones et l'EC », d'ajouter Mme McDougall.

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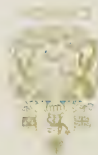
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«Les autochtones exercent des pouvoirs accrus dans le domaine de la mise en valeur des ressources humaines, et cette stratégie leur permet de modifier les relations de travail fondamentales qui existent entre les autochtones et Emploi et Immigration Canada», a indiqué Mme McDougall.

La stratégie consiste principalement à établir des commissions autochtones. Celles-ci seront dirigées par les membres de la collectivité et permettront aux autochtones de fixer les priorités en matière de mise en valeur des ressources humaines à l'échelle tant locale, régionale que nationale. Les autochtones seront là où les décisions stratégiques se prendront au sujet de la mise en valeur des ressources humaines autochtones. Les commissions locales et régionales doivent être instaurées d'ici le 1^{er} avril 1991.

Autre élément important, la stratégie vise à assurer aux autochtones l'accès à toute la gamme des programmes et services d'EIC en matière d'adaptation au marché du travail.

«La stratégie des chemins de la réussite assure que l'initiative touchant la main-d'oeuvre autochtone répondra aux besoins particuliers des femmes, des jeunes ainsi que des personnes handicapées et rejoindront les autochtones qui en ont le plus besoin», a poursuivi Mme McDougall.



Pour publication

Le 29 novembre 1990
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POUR DIFFUSION IMMÉDIATE

Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration, a annoncé aujourd'hui une nouvelle stratégie de formation et d'emploi des autochtones appelée « Les chemins de la réussite ». Cette stratégie vise à faire d'Emploi et Immigration Canada (EIC) et des groupes autochtones, des partenaires.

La nouvelle stratégie repose sur cinq principes formulés par les autochtones, puis entérinés par Mme McDougall au nom du gouvernement fédéral, le 13 juin 1990. (Voir pièce jointe.)

Selon les estimations, quelque 200 millions de dollars seront consacrés à bâtir une main-d'oeuvre autochtone compétente et compétitive.

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Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date December 4, 1990

90-36

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Monique Vézina Tables 1990 Annual Report to Parliament
on Employment Equity**

Monique Vézina, Minister of State (Employment and Immigration), tabled the third Annual Report on Employment Equity in Parliament today.

Mrs. Vézina took the opportunity to announce that, according to data provided by the 368 employers governed by the Act, the representation of each of the four designated groups increased slightly in 1989. Women and members of visible minorities demonstrated the greatest improvement, while more modest gains were made by aboriginal peoples and disabled persons.

"All designated groups are now better represented in the vast majority of occupational categories," said the Minister of State. "I am also happy to see that employers are implementing innovative measures to achieve a more representative workforce."

This report provides a chapter outlining qualitative measures employers have taken to improve the status of the designated groups. As well, employers are ranked both in terms of the representation of designated groups and their rate of progress since the last report.

Mrs. Vézina noted that in 1991, the House of Commons will form a Parliamentary committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the provisions, operations and effectiveness of the legislation. The committee will also prepare a summary of its findings and recommendations on the legislation in a report to Parliament. To prepare for this formal review, Employment and Immigration Canada has held working meetings with representatives of business, labour and designated groups across Canada to receive their suggestions.

After tabling the Employment Equity Report, Mrs. Vézina indicated that copies of individual employer reports are available for review in many libraries across Canada. A list of these libraries is available at any Canada Employment Centre.

The reports may also be purchased from Supply and Services Canada.

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la liste de ces bibliothèques dans tous les Centres
d'emploi du Canada. On peut aussi acheter ces rapports
en s'adressant à Approvisionnements et Services Canada.

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«Tous les groupes désignés comptent à présent davantage de représentants dans la très grande majorité des catégories professionnelles, a déclaré la ministre d'État. De plus, je suis heureuse de constater que les employeurs adoptent des initiatives novatrices afin de se doter d'une main-d'oeuvre plus représentative.»

Le rapport annuel contient un chapitre traitant des mesures qualitatives adoptées par les employeurs afin d'améliorer la situation des groupes désignés. Les employeurs ont également été cotés aux termes de la représentation des groupes désignés et en ce qui a trait au progrès réalisé depuis le dernier rapport.

M^{me} Vézina a rappelé qu'en 1991, la Chambre des communes chargera un Comité parlementaire de l'examen en profondeur de la Loi, de ses dispositions, de son application et de son efficacité. Le comité remettra également au Parlement un résumé de ses conclusions et de ses recommandations concernant la Loi. En vue de cet examen, Emploi et Immigration Canada a tenu des rencontres avec les représentants des employeurs, des syndicats et des groupes désignés à travers le Canada afin de recueillir leurs suggestions.

Après avoir déposé le rapport de la Loi sur l'équité en matière d'emploi, M^{me} Vézina a indiqué que des exemplaires des rapports individuels des employeurs sont disponibles pour fins de consultation dans de nombreuses bibliothèques du pays. On peut se procurer



Pour publication

Le 4 décembre 1990
90-36

POUR DIFFUSION IMMEDIATE

M^{me} Monique Vézina dépose au Parlement le rapport annuel 1990 sur la Loi sur l'équité en matière d'emploi. La ministre d'État à l'Emploi et à l'Immigration, M^{me} Monique Vézina, a déposé aujourd'hui au Parlement le troisième rapport annuel portant sur la Loi sur l'équité en matière d'emploi.

M^{me} Vézina a annoncé à cette occasion que selon les données fournies par les 368 employeurs assujettis à la Loi, la représentation de chacun des quatre groupes désignés s'est légèrement accrue en 1989. La situation des femmes et des membres des minorités visibles s'est particulièrement améliorée, tandis que des progrès plus modestes ont été réalisés par les autochtones et les personnes handicapées.

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Minister of Employment
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Ministre de l'Emploi
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Date

December 27, 1990
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Canada-Québec agreement on immigration



OTTAWA - The Honourable Barbara McDougall and Québec's Minister of "Communautés culturelles et de l'Immigration du Québec", Mrs. Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, announced an agreement in principle on immigration, based upon the Cullen-Couture agreement signed in 1978 by the Canadian and Québec governments.

The new agreement will come into force on April 1, 1991. It is the result of discussions between the two Governments, based on a recognition of the important role immigration can play in the future of Québec, and the necessity of full integration of immigrants into society. The agreement provides Québec with the additional means to achieve its objectives.

The agreement, which is subject to the Canadian and Québec Charters of Rights respects the mobility rights of immigrants, as well as their right to protection against all discrimination. Further, the accord proclaims Canada's and Québec's commitment to the principle of family reunification and their common desire to further their objectives in the area of humanitarian admissions.

The agreement provides a framework which clarifies the roles and responsibilities of Canada and Québec in the area of immigration. It acknowledges that Canada has exclusive responsibility for setting national standards and objectives. It also recognizes that the federal government is responsible for the admission to Canada of all immigrants and for the admission and control of aliens.

The accord recognizes that the Government of Québec has exclusive responsibility for the selection of immigrants in the independent class. It assigns to the provincial government responsibilities for reception, and linguistic and cultural integration services, as well as economic integration services available specifically to permanent residents. The federal government is therefore withdrawing from these services and will provide financial compensation to Québec so that the services it offers will be equivalent overall to those offered by the federal government elsewhere in Canada.

Mrs. McDougall stated that, "The new agreement to be signed by the federal and Québec Governments will clearly give Québec additional means of recruiting immigrants and integrating them into Québec society, while preserving the unity of the basic Canadian immigration policy."

Federal employees working in the services affected will be given the opportunity to join the provincial public service. Those employees who choose to join the provincial government, as well as those who choose to remain within the federal government, will be treated in accordance with the federal government's workforce adjustment policy.

The agreement will be signed early in the new year. To ensure a smooth transition, a letter of understanding will also be signed concerning employee rights and the preparation of joint instructions and co-operative arrangements to ensure rapid and efficient implementation of the agreement.

In announcing this agreement, Mrs. McDougall pointed out that there is a long tradition of federal-provincial cooperation in immigration. Over the last decade, the federal government has signed administrative agreements on immigration with six other provincial governments. Some other provinces are negotiating with the federal government; others may want to do so in the future. In any such discussions, the federal government will take into account the situation and particular needs of each province within the federal framework, as was the case during the discussions with Québec.

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présentement avec le gouvernement fédéral; d'autres pourraient vouloir faire de même dans le futur. Dans toutes ces discussions, le gouvernement fédéral tiendra compte de la situation et des besoins particuliers de chaque province à l'intérieur du cadre fédéral canadien, comme il l'a fait lors de ses discussions avec le Québec.

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Mme McDougall a déclaré que «La nouvelle entente que signeront les gouvernements du Canada et du Québec fournira clairement au Québec des moyens supplémentaires pour assurer le recrutement et l'intégration des immigrants à la société québécoise, tout en préservant l'unité de l'ensemble du Canada en matière d'immigration.»

Les employés fédéraux qui travaillent dans les services touchés se verront offrir la possibilité de se joindre à la fonction publique provinciale. Tous les employés, qu'ils décident de se joindre à la fonction publique québécoise ou de rester au gouvernement fédéral, seront traités selon les dispositions de la politique fédérale de réaménagement des effectifs.

L'entente sera signée tôt au début de la nouvelle année. Pour assurer une transition harmonieuse, il y aura aussi signature d'une lettre d'entente touchant les droits des employés, la rédaction de directives communes et les mécanismes de collaboration qui permettront une mise en oeuvre rapide et efficace de l'entente.

En annonçant cette entente Mme McDougall a rappelé par ailleurs qu'il existe une longue tradition de coopération fédérale-provinciale en matière d'immigration. Au cours de la dernière décennie, le gouvernement fédéral a signé des ententes de coopération fédérale-provinciale en matière d'immigration avec six autres gouvernements provinciaux. Certaines provinces négocient

Cet accord est sujet aux chartes québécoises et canadienne des droits et libertés et respecte la liberté d'établissement des immigrants et leur protection contre toute discrimination. De plus l'entente proclame l'attachement du Canada et du Québec au principe de la réunification des familles et leur volonté commune de satisfaire leurs objectifs en matière d'accueil humanitaire.

L'entente offre un cadre qui clarifie les rôles et les responsabilités du Canada et du Québec en matière d'immigration. Elle reconnaît au Canada la responsabilité exclusive de déterminer les normes et objectifs nationaux. Elle reconnaît également au gouvernement fédéral la responsabilité de l'admission au Canada de tout immigrant, ainsi que de l'admission et du contrôle des étrangers.

Cette entente reconnaît au gouvernement québécois une responsabilité exclusive en matière de sélection des immigrants de la classe des indépendants. Elle confie au gouvernement québécois la responsabilité pour l'accueil et pour les services d'intégration linguistique et culturelle ainsi que les services d'intégration économique spécialement offerts aux résidents permanents. Le gouvernement fédéral se retire donc de ces services et versera au Québec une compensation financière pour que les services offerts par le Québec correspondent dans leur ensemble à ceux offerts par le gouvernement fédéral dans le reste du pays.



Pour publication

Le 27 décembre 1990

90-37

Entente Canada-Québec sur l'Immigration

OTTAWA - Mme Barbara McDougall, ministre de l'Emploi et de l'Immigration du Canada, et Mme Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, ministre des Communautés culturelles et de l'Immigration du Québec, ont annoncé la conclusion d'une entente de principe en matière d'immigration qui s'inscrit dans la continuité de l'Entente Cullen-Couture signée entre les gouvernements du Québec et du Canada en 1978.

La nouvelle entente, qui entrera en vigueur le 1^{er} avril 1991, est le résultat de discussions entre les deux gouvernements, fondées sur la reconnaissance du rôle important que l'immigration peut jouer dans l'avenir démographique du Québec ainsi que sur la nécessité d'intégrer pleinement les immigrants à la société. Elle fournira au Québec des moyens supplémentaires d'atteindre ses objectifs.

Minister of Employment
and Immigration



Ministre de l'Emploi
et de l'Immigration

For release

Date

December 28, 1990
90-37A



Canada-Québec agreement on immigration

OTTAWA - The Honorable Barbara McDougall and Québec's Minister of "Communautés culturelles et de l'Immigration du Québec", Mrs Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, released the following explanatory note on the Canada-Québec accord on immigration.

Accord on Immigration
and the Temporary Admission of Aliens

Québec's demographic problems and its need for cultural security in relation to immigration policy underlie the decision to sign, in the coming weeks, a new Accord on Immigration and the Temporary Admission of Aliens which will come into force on April 1st 1991 replacing the Cullen-Couture Agreement.

Québec is the sole majority francophone province in Canada. However, with a birth rate which no longer ensures the replacement of the generations, a negative migratory flow for most of the last decade, and a diminution of its demographic weight within the federation, the province is concerned with its demographic, linguistic and cultural future. Among other factors, Québec counts on immigration to help it redress this situation.

The task will not be easy, but the governments of Québec and Canada have decided to work together to meet the challenge.

The Accord

The primary objective of the new Accord, which is inspired by the Cullen-Couture Agreement, is to provide Québec with better means to preserve its demographic weight within Canada and to ensure the integration of immigrants consistent with the distinct character of Québec society.

Subject to guarantees respecting mobility rights of immigrants and their protection against all forms of discrimination, the Accord reflects the commitment of Canada and Québec to the principle of family reunification and their common will to fulfil their objectives with respect to humanitarian admissions.

The Accord will reflect a new division of roles and responsibilities for Canada and Québec in the area of immigration, largely inspired by the principles and practices tested in the Cullen-Couture Agreement and consistent with section 95 of the Constitution Act, 1867, whereby immigration is an area of concurrent jurisdiction.

On the one hand, the Accord will recognize Canada's exclusive responsibility to determine national standards and objectives. It also recognizes the federal responsibility for admission of immigrants and the temporary admission of aliens to Canada. Canada will discharge these responsibilities by defining general categories of immigrants and the categories of persons who are inadmissible to the country, by fixing immigration levels and conditions for obtaining Canadian citizenship, and by maintaining responsibility for fulfilment of Canada's international obligations. The federal government will also have the responsibility to decide refugee status, to grant permanent resident status to immigrants, and to grant the right of entry to aliens. In the case of temporary workers, students and persons seeking medical care, this right of entry would be subject to Québec's consent as is now the case under the Cullen-Couture Agreement.

The Accord equally recognizes the exclusive responsibility of the Government of Québec with respect to selection of immigrants destined to Québec (save in the case of family class immigrants). In the case of family class immigrants, Québec will have the exclusive responsibility to establish and administer the undertakings of their sponsors.

The Accord gives the Government of Québec responsibilities for linguistic, cultural and economic integration services designed specifically for permanent residents (i.e. immigrants who have not yet been granted Canadian Citizenship) in Québec. The federal government will withdraw and provide reasonable compensation to Québec for those services, provided that the services "when considered in their entirety correspond to the services offered by Canada in the rest of the country". In the case of economic integration services, the obligation to withdraw with compensation does not apply to services which are offered by Canada to all residents of the country on an equal basis.

The Accord offers Québec an assurance of preserving its demographic weight by way of an undertaking by Canada and Québec to pursue an immigration policy which permits Québec to receive a percentage of total immigration proportional to its percentage of the Canadian population, with the opportunity to exceed that number by five percent for demographic reasons.

Under the Accord, the federal government remains solely responsible for citizenship services, and maintains its right to provide multiculturalism services for Canadian citizens.

Operational Annexes

The operational annexes to the Accord spell out the responsibilities and obligations of both governments as set out in the Accord. Drawing on experience gained under the Cullen-Couture Agreement, the annexes specify the detailed administrative tasks and obligations of both Canada and Québec which flow from the Accord. They establish a list of reception services and of linguistic, cultural and economic integration services offered to permanent residents, from which Canada will withdraw in favour of Québec, and set the amounts which will be transferred to the Government of Québec as compensation.

Québec will receive compensation to provide services to new immigrants comparable to services provided by Canada in other provinces and the Territories. This compensation takes into account the extra costs that accrue to Québec given the fact that from year to year only one-third of the province's immigrants speak French while half of immigrants to the rest of Canada speak English. The compensation also recognizes the additional costs Québec faces in integrating its immigrants to a French speaking lifestyle within a preponderantly English speaking North American culture.

This compensation will be paid on condition that the services in question, when considered in their entirety, correspond to the services offered by Canada in the rest of the country, and further provided that such services are offered without discrimination to all permanent residents of Québec.

In summary, the new Accord, which replaces the Cullen-Couture Agreement, provides Québec with additional means to ensure the recruitment and integration of immigrants to Québec society while preserving the unity of the basic Canadian immigration policy.

Implementation

The Accord will come into force on April 1st 1991. To ensure a harmonious transition from the Cullen-Couture Agreement to this new agreement, the governments of Canada and Québec will sign a letter of understanding. This letter will deal with the questions of employee rights and task the implementation committee, created under the Cullen-Couture Agreement, with the responsibility of writing joint directives, and proposing mechanisms for cooperation which will provide for rapid, efficient implementation of the new Accord right from the start.

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